

SCAVE

MIDDLESBROUGH team group plus Club
Spotlight

SHOOT!

18p

4th NOVEMBER, 1978

Aston Villa's young defender Allan Evans jumps above Ted MacDougall of Southampton to clear.

**BIG MATCH
CROSSTALK
SPURS v. BOLTON**

**Ray Clemence or
Peter Shilton**

Which is the better all-round 'keeper?
Norwich City captain Martin Peters gives
his verdict

CELTIC'S record fee signing, Dave Provan £120,000 winger from Kilmarnock, was told to pull his socks up the other week.

He needed his first game for his new club with his socks around his ankles . . . but they'll remain rolled-up in future.

"One or two of the lads told me to have socks around ankles is not the done thing at Parkhead."

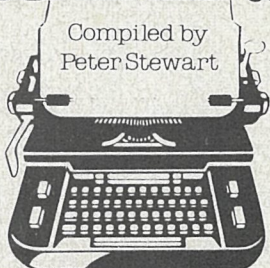
Hatton's Header for Hatters

BOB Hatton's headed equalising goal for Luton against Sheffield United at Bramall Lane recently was his 150th in the League.

THE witty exchanges continue to flow between Liverpool and Everton. The latest, from Liverpool, is a cracker — "We're surprised Everton have been allowed into Europe after the way they vandalised the last ship. They tore the sails and threw the cannonballs over the side!"

NEWS

Compiled by
Peter Stewart



DESK

Another winner for Chesterfield

MODEST Chesterfield have firmly established a strong reputation for producing top goalkeepers, pre-War England star Sam Hardy (Manchester City), Ray Middleton (Derby), Gordon Banks (Stoke) and Alan Stevenson (Burnley) are just a few of the many that have started off their careers at the Recreation Ground.

In the last two years Chesterfield have sold Steve Hardwick to Newcastle for £100,000 and Steven Ogrizovic to Liverpool for £90,000 to maintain their reputation as a top breeding ground for class goalkeepers.

A Bargain

Now the Midland club reckon they have found another winner in Glan Letheran (right), current member of the Welsh Under-21 squad, who was snapped up from Leeds for a bargain £15,000 after being on loan to Notts County and Chelsea.

The 6ft 2in Llanelli-born Letheran has already proved a magnet for the First Division scouts with Manchester United, Wolves and Ipswich already checking his form after a string of impressive displays this season.

Former Arsenal 'keeper Bob Wilson, born in Chesterfield but one of the few who never played for his local club, predicts: "Glan looks like being another winner for my home town team."

BURNS WILL BOOST BORO

MICKEY Burns (right) was disappointed his player-coach role with Cardiff City did not work out. "It was a traumatic experience but there are no stones to be thrown," said the former Blackpool and Newcastle United forward.

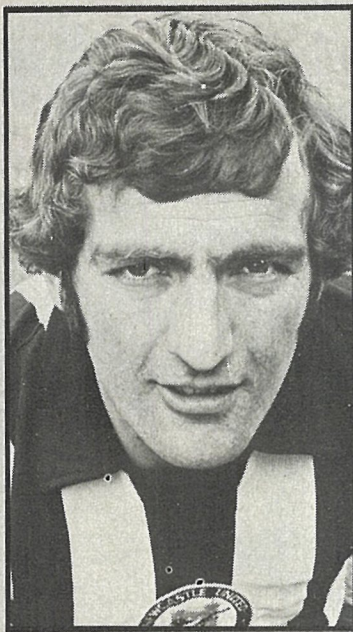
Burns was delighted when Middlesbrough moved in with a £75,000 bid two months after Burns had joined Cardiff.

"Glad to be back in the North-East. Now I intend to concentrate on playing," he said after signing.

The 31-year-old Burns oozed confidence when he signed for Middlesbrough. "I am sure they can get out of trouble. They have always impressed me as a well-organised, and consistent, side since winning promotion."

Burns won this tribute from Newcastle manager Bill McGarry. "He was my best player and best trainer last season. I did not want to let him go, but he was adamant over a move. What a partnership Mickey could have struck up this season with Peter Withe."

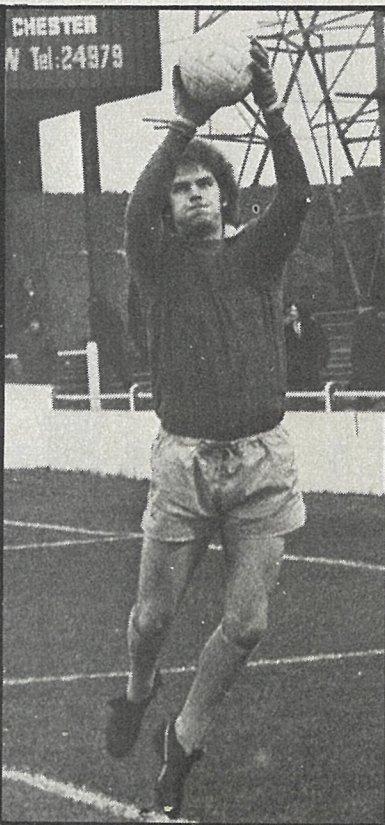
● Cardiff City would like to replace Mickey Burns with Bristol City's fit again striker Chris Garland.



WAYNE Pratt, an 18-year-old midfielder with Southampton, has one special reason for wanting to do well with Saints. His uncle, Eric Fountain, once played in goal for them.

A former Hampshire schools' player, Southampton-born Wayne has already had one great moment with Saints.

He led the Southampton Youth team out at Wembley in the Pontins Six-a-Side tournament before the 1978 Charity Shield match.



PRESTON and Leicester are among the clubs chasing Coventry City's unsettled £130,000 striker Alan Green.

FANS 'INVADE' IPSWICH

MORE than 10,000 fans invaded Portman Road recently when Ipswich Town held their first-ever Open Day.

They were able to look behind the scenes, have their picture taken with the F.A. Cup and see their favourite players taking part in a light-hearted skills competition.

One of the attractions was a contest to find the Ipswich player with the hardest shot. Winner was Dutchman Arnold Muhren whose shot was "clocked" at over 60 miles per hour.

THE Guinness Book of Soccer Facts and Feats covers the growth and development of the game . . . its major competitions . . . players and managers . . . the evolution of rules and tactics . . . the current scene in Britain, Europe and the Americas . . . the World Cup from 1930 up to and including the 1978 competition in Argentina.

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Compiled by Jack Rollin this fascinating and highly absorbing reference book is published by Guinness Superlatives Ltd. at £4.95.

COX — MARK TWO

ON the day Britain's tennis players reached the Davis Cup Semi-Finals with a thrilling victory over Czechoslovakia at Eastbourne, one of our best-known players Mark Cox was making his Football League debut.

No, you've guessed it — not the blond left-hander who was a prominent member of our successful squad — but a young striker being bloodied by Doncaster Rovers in their Fourth Division game at Reading.

Unhappily for Cox — Mark Two — his day did not end quite so happily. Rovers were beaten 3-0 by a high-flying Reading side, which could well go up this season.

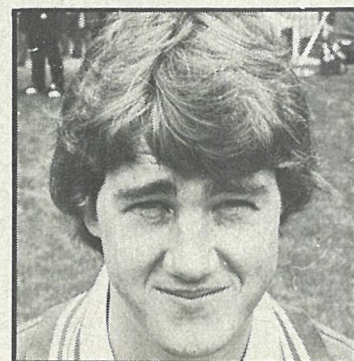
HAPLESS HARPS

NOT only has the Donegal League of Ireland club Finn Harps got to contend with the memory of their drubbing by Everton in the U.E.F.A. Cup, but they have also to live down a local scandal over registration forms.

Rebel striker Hilary Carlyle refused to sign for Harps at the beginning of the season and considering himself a free agent, signed on the dotted line for Dundalk. Despite the fact Carlyle has documentary proof Harps agreed to release him, the club forwarded a registration form to the F.A.I. before the August 15 U.E.F.A. Cup deadline with a signature purporting to be Carlyle's.

Harps contested Dundalk's right to sign the player, but the F.A.I. threw out their protest on learning of their actions. They deferred punishment for the offence but it is expected to be the largest fine ever meted out to a club by the ruling body. As one newspaper columnist pointed out, if a junior club committed the alleged offence, they would face a season-long ban!

CLYDEBANK manager Bill Munro has gone part-time like his players. Says Bill: "All my players are part-time and there's nothing for me to do all day at Kilbowie Park."



THE DOC 'STOLE' CLARKE

DYNAMIC Derby boss Tommy Docherty reckoned he did good business when he snapped up Gordon Hill from Manchester United for a mere £250,000.

But The Doc — soccer's most experienced transfer trader — reckons he stole 19-year-old midfielder Jonathan Clarke (above) for £50,000.

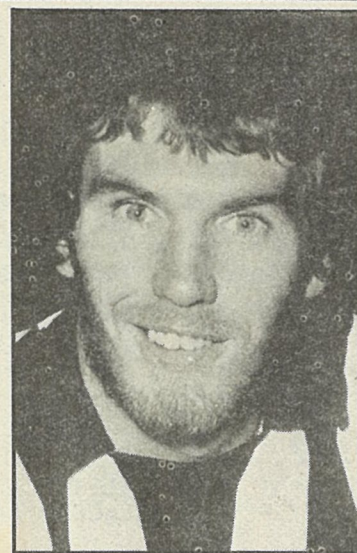
Says joke-a-minute Doc: "When I heard he was available I thought Christmas must have come three months early. When I was manager at Old Trafford I beat off 31 clubs for his signature. He was the best schoolboy I had ever seen. I reckon he will be worth £500,000 by the time he gets his first full cap for Wales."

SEPTEMBER TRANSFERS

Mel Holden (Blackpool to PEC Zwolle, Holland)
 Steve Hunt (Cosmos to Coventry)
 Leighton James (Q.P.R. to Burnley)
 Nicky Johns (Tampa Bay to Sheff. Utd.)
 Gerry Keenan (Bury to Port Vale)
 Mick Leach (Detroit Express to Cambridge)
 Roy McDonough (Birmingham to Walsall)
 Duncan McKenzie (Everton to Chelsea)
 Don Masson (Derby Co. to Notts Co.)
 Mick Martin (West Brom to Preston)
 Ian Moores (Spurs to Orient)
 Steve Neville (Southampton to Exeter)
 Terry Pashley (Burnley to Blackpool)
 Colin Prohett (Swindon to Chesterfield)
 Andy Rowlands (Bury to Swindon)
 Gerry Ryan (Derby to Brighton)
 Colin Todd (Derby to Everton)
 Alberto Tarantini (Free agent to Birmingham)
 Steve Waddington (Stoke to Walsall)
 Paul Went (Cardiff C. to Orient)

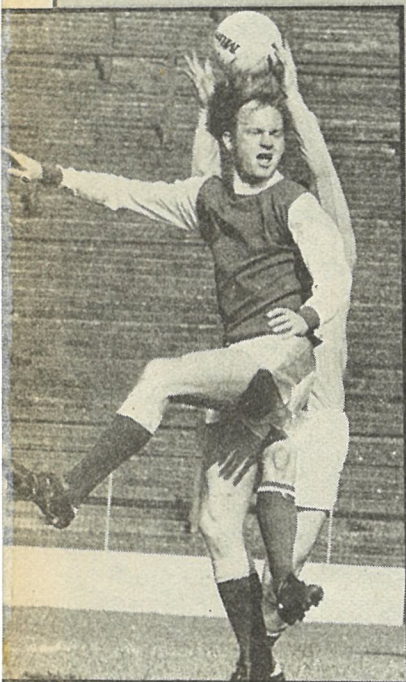
● Another two and a half million pounds changed hands in the transfer market from the start of the season to the end of September.

Peter Withe (right, Nottm. F. to Newcastle)
 Frank Barton (Hereford to Bournemouth)
 Ken Beamish (Port Vale to Bury)
 Alan Birchenall (Memphis Rogues to Blackburn)
 Phil Boersma (Luton to Swansea)
 Mick Buckley (Everton to Sunderland)
 Ian Callaghan (Liverpool to Swansea)
 Steve Carter (Notts Co. to Derby)
 Sammy Chapman (Notts Co. to Shrewsbury)
 Colin Clarke (Los Angeles Aztecs to Plymouth)
 Jonathan Clarke (Man. Utd. to Derby)
 Joe Craig (Celtic to Blackburn)
 Dave Cusack (Sheff. Wed. to Southend)
 John Duncan (Spurs to Derby)
 John Froggatt (Port Vale to Northampton)
 Bobby Gould (Bristol R. to Hereford)
 David Gregory (Stoke C. to Bury)
 Chris Guthrie (Swindon to Fulham)
 Steve Harrison (Vancouver White Caps to Watford)
 Martin Henderson (ex-Rangers to Leicester)
 Bobby Hodge (Exeter to Colchester)



Handyman Ally

MORTON striker Ally Scott (below) is proving to his former clubs, Rangers and Hibs, he's still a handyman when it comes to scoring goals. At Cappielow against Rangers he scored the equaliser in a 2-2 draw. A week later at Easter Road he headed his side into the lead and Hibs had to settle eventually for a 1-1 draw.



A BROKEN leg resulted in a game between Forfar Athletic and Montrose reserve teams being abandoned. Midway through the first-half, Charlie Downie, the 24-year-old Montrose midfielder player, broke a leg for the third time in three years. Trainer John Hannah put the leg in a splint but because Downie could not be moved until an ambulance arrived the referee abandoned the game.

ARSENAL's former chief-scout Gordon Clark has been appointed to a similar position with Leicester City.

CHESTERFIELD made a profit of £29,000 last season, compared with an £11,500 loss the previous year.

INTER-LEAGUE CLASH

NEXT Wednesday's (November 1st) Scottish League-Irish League clash at St. Mirren will be the first encounter between the two Leagues since 1969 and the 54th since the series began in 1900.

The Irish League have an appalling record against the Scots at this level, winning only three times, and always in Belfast, in 1903 (1-0), 1931 (3-2) and 1933 (3-0). In all, the Scots netted 201 goals in their 50 wins to date, while the Irish require one more to reach the half-century mark.

Needless to say, the Ulster part-timers will again be hard pushed to keep out the rampant Scots in Wednesday's fixture, especially without several ex-home-based players recently transferred to English clubs, including the likes of Billy Caskey, Vic Moreland and Tom Connell.

BOHEMIANS have again won the first competition in Eire. They defeated Shamrock Rovers 3-1 to take their fifth in-a-row Presidents' Cup.

LINFIELD's early Euro exit, at the hands of Norwegians Lillestrom, meant the famous Belfast club had failed to get beyond the Champions' Cup First Round stage, since they reached the Quarter-Finals of the tournament, in 1966-67.

Incidentally, the last time The Blues won a European game was their 1970-71 2-1 home Cup-Winners' conquest of then holders Manchester City, the Maine Road outfit qualifying on the away goals rule after an earlier 1-0 win.

Thistle's Cockney supporters

MEADOWBANK Thistle gave their best performance of the season in front of some very special fans when they beat East Stirling 3-1. Among the crowd were a party of twenty members of the London branch of the Meadowbank Supporters' Club who travelled 400 miles especially for the game. Before the start the Londoners were shown round Meadowbank's "home", the Commonwealth Games Stadium, and after the final whistle met the team and manager Willie Macfarlane.

PETER Shaw, a 22-year-old centre-half who joined Charlton from Staines Town last season, sees much more of the player whom he rated as tops in his younger days. His star has always been Colin Powell, the Charlton winger who was signed from Barnet in January, 1973.

Peter had the distinction of making his League debut for Charlton only 13 days after signing professional for them.

OSSIE'S BACK

JOHN Osborne (below), the former West Brom 'keeper has made a comeback with Shamrock Rovers.

John has been secretly signed by his former boss Johnny Giles as cover in case of injury to Alan O'Neill, Rovers' regular number one.

True enough O'Neill was injured in a pre-season tournament in Spain, and Osborne, ever-colourful even in his choice of jersey, made a comeback with The Hoops and also played in the First Round of the Cup-Winners' Cup against Apoel of Nicosia.



BIRMINGHAM City's heavy injury list has resulted in a quick promotion for Cockney kid, Mark Dennis.

He has been rushed into the side at left-back and manager Jim Smith is highly delighted with his form.

Dennis, however, is more concerned about his England youth team prospects. He is hoping to win his first international honours this season.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
 ★ THE Notts County v. Newcastle ★
 ★ United Second Division game at ★
 ★ Meadow Lane on September 30th, was ★
 ★ the first League meeting of the two ★
 ★ clubs in 45 years. Newcastle won 2-1. ★
 ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

ENGLAND BOSS AT TELFORD

ENGLAND team manager, Ron Greenwood, visited Telford, Shropshire, recently. The visit was arranged by former England star, Geoff Hurst, now Telford United's manager, who is, of course, part of Greenwood's coaching team for the national side.

Geoff also does extensive soccer coaching in the new town's schools for Telford Development Corporation.

Mr. Greenwood, as well as meeting local football organisations, talked to a large number of school children at a special afternoon presentation. He spent the evening at the Buck's Head ground watching United's home match v. Worcester City in the Southern League (Premier Division).

Mr. Greenwood said: "I was delighted to accept Geoff's invitation to Telford to meet the children and to watch the United's match because nothing can be achieved at national level unless the proper foundation work is carried out at schools and in local soccer."

FACTastic

ON April 17th, 1955, Arsenal were leading Blackpool 4-0 with barely seconds to go. A whistle blew. Most of the players stopped and Arsenal full-back Dennis Evans gleefully kicked the ball into the net where his goalie was retrieving his cap. A moment later another whistle sounded — the ref's signal to end the game, and Blackpool were awarded a last second goal. The first whistle had come from a fan! The Press headlined it as "the craziest goal of the season".

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Played with a brolly!

Is it true an Aston Villa player called Athersmith once put up an umbrella during a match?

FRANCIS JONES,
CARDIFF

● That's the famous old legend, Francis — though, to be honest, I've never found any cast-iron proof as to precisely when and where.

It's said Athersmith — who was something of a "character" — once got so fed-up one very wet day, while Villa were doing all the attacking down the other end, he cheekily borrowed a brolly from a spectator while he was waiting for the ball to come upfield his way.

But for all his sense of fun — and William Charles Athersmith even loved to make a gag out of the initials of his Christian names! — he could also play a bit.

He helped Villa to win the League and Cup "double" in 1896-97 — and also gained four more League Championship medals and another F.A. Cup-winners' medal.

And Athersmith played 12 times for England — a reasonable figure in days when only three internationals a year were played against the other Home nations.

Won 35-0 — but not a record

I know of the famous record Scottish Cup 36-0 win by Arbroath over Bon Accord, but is it true another side scored almost as many?

JEREMY BURROWS,
LONDON, E.C.4

● It is indeed, Jeremy, and in the very same competition on the very same day — 5th September, 1885.

At the same time as Arbroath were piling up their own 36-0 win, Dundee Harp were thumping Aberdeen Rovers almost as heavily — by 35-0.

And, just to complete the goal-happy Cup scene, Queen's Park were simultaneously beating St. Peter's 16-0.

They just don't breed strikers like that any more — nor, for that matter, goal-keepers, either!

Town draw 1-1

My brother supports Huddersfield, and I follow Manchester United. We've got an Old Trafford programme for their First Division meeting on 28th November, 1970, and would like to know who won?

GARY AUCLAND,
HUDDERSFIELD

● Neither did, Gary — so you can shake hands in brotherly love on a 1-1 draw! Brian Greenhalgh scored for the visitors — a chap called Georgie Best replying for United.

Now, only eight years on, three Divisions separate the two clubs.

Shared goals and age

Is it true two famous players both scored their 200th Football League goal at exactly the same age?

GLENN GIBBOURNE,
LEICESTER

● Quite true, Glenn — at the age of 23 years and 290 days.

Everton's "Dixie" Dean had already done that in pre-War times — and then, in December, 1963, Tottenham's Jimmy Greaves popped-in his own 200th exactly the same age to the day.

United lose at home

I was born on 11th January, 1964, and would like to know how Manchester United got on that day?

PAULINE COHEN,
PRESTWICH

● United lost 1-2 at home to Birmingham that day, Pauline, but still finished as runners-up to Liverpool at the end of the season.

But victorious opponents Birmingham, on the other hand, only missed relegation by a single point.

SHORT PASSES

● Liverpool have won the League a record ten times, and the F.A. Cup twice. They have never won the League Cup.

(STEPHEN HENDERSON, Preston)

● Emlyn Hughes was born in Barrow, and played 28 League games for Blackpool before joining Liverpool in March, 1967.

(COLIN CROSSLEY, Ulverston)

● Geoff Hurst (three) and Martin Peters scored England's goals in their 4-2 victory over West Germany in the 1966 World Cup Final.

(CHIN KWONG FOR, West Malaysia)

● Substitutes were first allowed in Football League games (then for injured players only) at the start of the 1965-66 season.

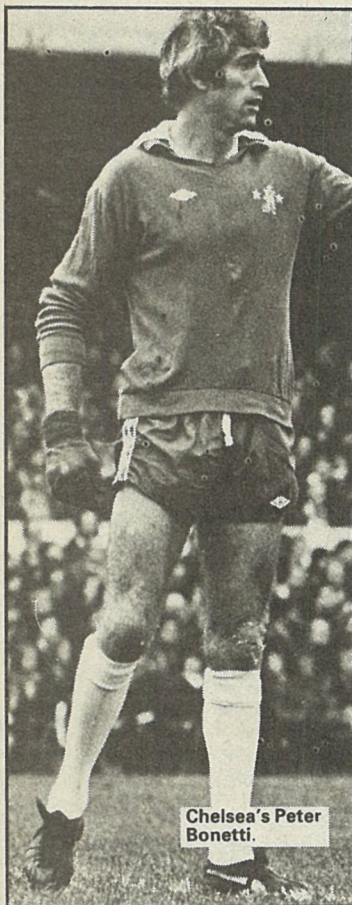
(GEORGE POOLE, Beckenham)

● Kenny Dalglish was born in Glasgow on 4th March, 1951.

(C. JOHNSTON, Manchester)

Our Expert would like to point out that although all letters are read, he can only reply to published questions because of shortage of time.

SOCCER'S SURVIVORS



Chelsea's Peter Bonetti.

the pensioners is Chelsea's Ron Harris — hardly complete with walking stick!

All five have looked just as good as ever this season, and their endurance makes one wonder if many veterans aren't discarded a little too soon, or if some players hang up their boots a little early in life — e.g. Denis Law and Francis Lee.

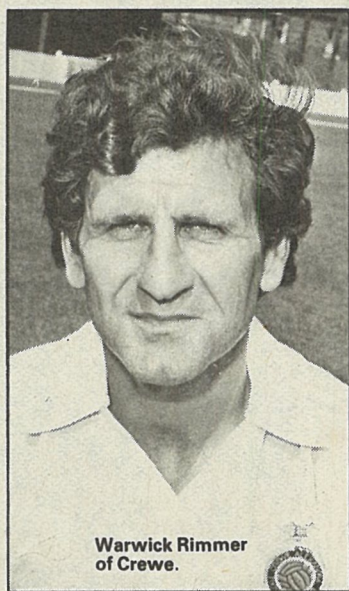
Although the Chelsea-Norwich match is the most striking illustration of veteran variety, there are others who have been around the circuit for probably longer than they'd like to admit.

Somehow it seems all the more amazing for a professional to avoid the clutches of time if he's with a Third or Fourth Division club. At this level there is little mercy and once a player is showing signs of age he's put out to grass.

Yet Crewe's Warwick Rimmer must rate as one of the great survivors of all-time. He was a craggy wing-half with Bolton Wanderers back in the Fifties, making his debut in the '58-59 season.

Now some 20 years on, Bolton having just risen to the top level after what seems a lifetime in the Second and Third Divisions, the name Warwick Rimmer is still there — though with another club, of course.

He was in Crewe's team on the



Warwick Rimmer of Crewe.

opening day of the season at Huddersfield, and no doubt just as thrilled climbing on the coach for the return journey after getting a point, as he was all those years ago when the opponents were Manchester United, Wolves and



Bolton's Tony Dunne beats Stuart Taylor of Bristol Rovers.

Arsenal.

Also coming up to the 20-year mark is Bradford City goalkeeper Peter Downsbrough who began life with Halifax and returned to his native West Riding via Swindon.

It was in Wiltshire Peter enjoyed his greatest moments. A League Cup Final winners' medal, and an Anglo-Italian Cup-winners medal.

Now he is said by many to be the most reliable goalkeeper in the Fourth Division. Certainly it was not his fault Bradford were relegated last season.

Going into the Sixties Manchester City's half-back line was Ken Barnes, Dave Ewing and Alan Oakes. Today Oakes is the go-ahead player-manager of Chester and making a real impact in both jobs — on and off the field.

It may be a sobering thought to many that the rest of that City side included such as Bert Trautmann, George Hannah and Johnny Hart who seem to have been retired for donkey's years.

Strangely that City side included Denis Law, who later went back there after many illustrious years with United, and another player who is still in the game TODAY.

His name is David Wagstaffe, and it was only this season that "Waggy" moved on again, following service with City, Wolves and Blackburn, by moving to the seaside home of Blackpool.

Whether it's that infamous Manchester weather that acts as a preservative or not, it seems a number of Maine Road old boys

stand the test of time better than most — another is their former goalkeeper Ken Mulhearn, still doing a grand job for Shrewsbury.

What a triumph too this year for Bolton Wanderers to attain their old First Division status with among their number the ever-greens Tony Dunne and Peter Thompson.

When Dunne first got into the United side he was playing alongside Harry Gregg, Bill Foulkes, Maurice Setters, Albert Quixall and Dennis Violet.

Thompson, now retired, was a contemporary of several Liverpool stars long forgotten by many, as of course, was Ian Callaghan whose many memorable years at Anfield came to a close recently when he teamed up with old chums Toshack, Smith, Waddle and Boersma at Swansea.

'Cally' was the first of that bunch to make his mark at Anfield, and it's worth reminding ourselves that when he made his debut — in the Second Division — all those years ago, he was sharing a dressing-room with Dave Hickson, Roger Hunt, Jimmy Melia, Alan A'Court and even the immortal Billy Liddell.

Barnsley's Barry Murphy, Peterborough's Tommy Robson, Hull's Malcolm Lord, Colchester's Mick Cook and Halifax Town's Micky Bullock are others who have been around more years than perhaps they care to remember — but the game will be poorer when they do decide to quit.

PLAYERS come and players go — but some seem to go on for ever.

It's probably never been worked out what the average playing life of a professional is, but it can't be very high.

All the more remarkable then when Chelsea meet Norwich City at Stamford Bridge on October 28, the combined ages of just five of the players involved will probably top 175!

The Division's two senior statesmen between the sticks are Chelsea's Peter Bonetti, now in his 20th season, and the ageless Kevin Keelan, whose dark good looks tend to make one forget he was with Aston Villa and Wrexham before Norwich — and he seems to have been at Carrow Road for an eternity!

Leading the Norwich attack is the greying Martin Chivers who it was thought had bowed out of League football long ago when he settled for a softer life with Servette in Switzerland.

Behind him in the Norwich midfield, just as he was when they were sharing great moments with Tottenham in the early Seventies is Martin Peters, once said to be ten years ahead of his time by Sir Alf Ramsey, and one of the two playing survivors of the 1966 World Cup winning team. Alan Ball is the other.

And completing the parade of

IN SHOOT last week my teammate Steve Coppell indicated Manchester United are swapping some of their adventurous, devil-may-care style, for a more organised approach.

Like Stevie, I reckon more caution this season will mean a tighter team defensively, one capable of bringing honours back to Old Trafford . . . a side certainly a lot harder to beat.

While United are reasonably well placed in the First Division at the moment, I realise we have not been playing as well as we can.

I suppose one reason for some inconsistency is we've not yet completely adjusted to our new style.

Mind you, United will still be attractive to watch. There's no way manager Dave Sexton will put up the shutters completely. He still allows defenders, me in particular, to go up when play allows.

I can tell you this — everyone at

stands, felt sorry for County. They had played so well without achieving the result they deserved. Still, they got some consolation from the gate receipts. Over 42,000 watched the game which County had switched to Old Trafford for obvious economic reasons.

United's interest in the competition ended in the next round when Watford beat us 2-1 at Old Trafford.

Luther Blissett, their young black striker, headed both goals to complete our humiliation.

Watford chairman Elton John said afterwards it was the greatest night of his life. Well, I'm pleased for Elton and Watford . . . they thoroughly deserved their success.

Blissett was outstanding, a fabulous prospect. His goals were headed with so much power older United fans said they hadn't seen any like it since the days of England star of the past, Tommy Lawton.

But man-of-the-match for me,

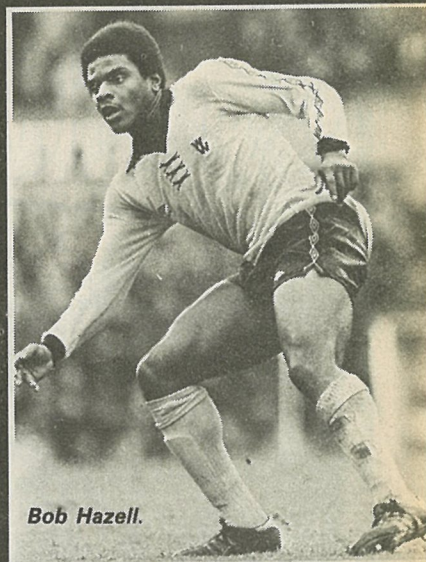
been spiked? Bad professionalism and attitude . . . it's as simple as that.

It's difficult for First Division clubs, more concerned with establishing a position among the leaders for the Championship race, to get motivated for a Cup tournament so early in the season.

For the little clubs it's not so hard. What else have most of them got to look forward to during the term? The League Cup is special for them and playing the likes of Manchester United at Old Trafford is their highlight of the season . . . their Cup Final . . . their one chance to grab some glory.

Arsenal are another of the giants to sensationally fall in the competition. They lost up at Third Division Rotherham.

At Highbury in the League, though, Arsenal are a very powerful outfit. They are rarely beaten, especially by Manchester United.



Bob Hazell.

'United are now harder to

the club has worked a lot harder this season. We've trained longer than ever before and concentrated more on dead-ball situations: practising free-kicks, corners and throw-ins.

Up to the time of writing this week's column, United had lost only one League game . . . away at Ipswich. But for that, United would have been right up among the pace-setters.

Losing 3-0 at Portman Road was our worst League display so far this term. United gave a horrible performance to allow Ipswich their first victory of the season.

We weren't much better against Stockport County a few days later in the Second Round of the League Cup.

United stumbled to a 3-2 win, but in all honesty our Fourth Division neighbours were the better side on the night.

My wife Yvonne, sitting in the

was Watford goalkeeper Andy Rankin. He was magic, especially in the last minute when his fingers somehow stretched an extra half-inch to tip away my header which had equaliser written all over it.

Watford's work-rate was incredible. They tackled harder than us and created more problems than Champions Nottingham Forest and Real Madrid, both of whom we've played recently.

The League Cup has provided most of the sensations of the season because of the number of First Division clubs knocked out so early on.

There seems to have been more interest in the competition than ever this season.

Why have so many of the big guns

Because of our past record at their ground I rate United's 1-1 draw on September 23rd as our best performance of the season so far.

That may come as a surprise to many readers who thought I'd have plumped for United's 3-2 victory against my old club Leeds at Elland Road.

Not so. I didn't think United played all that well. We certainly should have scored more than three.

Naturally all at Old Trafford were delighted at beating Man. City, thanks to a last-minute goal by Joe Jordan. At least it keeps our fans happy.

Three players in particular have given United supporters plenty to cheer about . . . goalkeeper Paddy Roche, defender Arthur Albiston

and striker Jimmy Greenhoff.

Paddy is having his best spell with the club. A wonder display at Arsenal finally established him as one of the top 'keepers in the First Division.

Arthur is tackling like a little tiger this season. He's young, strong, tremendous at recovery and so quick. All the qualities needed in a first class full-back.

Jimmy is the best forward in Britain at shielding the ball and laying it off. Nothing sensational about our lad, Jim — he just does his job well, week-after-week, without fuss. A real player's player.

From club now to country — and my new Scotland boss.

I must admit Ally MacLeod's resignation was no surprise to me. When I learned his old club Ayr United needed a new manager I thought he'd be a certainty.

On the trip to Austria for our European Championship tie, Ally never hinted he would be going, but everyone in the squad knew something was wrong.

Ally was as different as night and day. Not his usual bubbling, confident self, but a subdued, even sullen man.

I suppose his timing was bad. Many people thought he should have resigned after Argentina. Obviously I don't know Ally's reasons . . . and I certainly don't condemn him.

If the Ayr job had come up earlier perhaps Ally would have resigned sooner.

I wish Ally every success with Ayr. He'll lead a quieter life, anyhow.

Everyone rejoiced North of the border when Jock Stein finally agreed to leave Leeds to take over from MacLeod.

The Big Man's record speaks for itself . . . at home and in Europe. He can stand level with all the top managers in the game.

His appointment has put a new edge on Scotland's future. Fans and players are more apprehensive and confident of a brighter tomorrow.

I'm writing this before his first big match in charge . . . our European Championship tie against Norway,



Luther Blissett heads the winner for Watford at Old Trafford in the League Cup.

so I can't comment on the result. I can say this for certain, though, discipline will now be a hell of a lot tighter.

Mr. Stein ran Celtic with a grip of iron. Anyone stepping out of line was stamped on. Jock Stein is tough, but fair. You can't ask for more than that.

This Saturday (October 28th) Manchester United are away to Wolves... and it's a match I expect to win.

It's a pity the Midlanders have not achieved any real success for such a long while. They've tradition, a great ground and enormous potential.

Two players particularly impress me... centre-half Bob Hazell who looks as if he's been carved out of granite, and striker John Richards who looks like missing the rest of the season because of injury.

John is a great finisher and has scored against me a few times. Let's

hope he gets back into action sooner than expected.

Now before I close I thought you'd like to know what I've been up to lately.

I took part in David Vine's "A Question of Sport" on BBC TV in Manchester just recently. A great experience.

I'm also becoming quite a pal of TV comedy star Leonard Rossiter... from "The Rise and Fall of Reginald Perrin" and "Rising Damp" fame.

Leonard was a Chelsea fan, although born in Liverpool, but got sick of all the violence on the terraces and stopped going to games.

Then before the Q.P.R. match at Loftus Road he rang me at United's hotel in London to ask for tickets.

He enjoyed himself so much that he again got in touch before the Arsenal match. Afterwards, Leonard told me his interest is returning.

Apart from being a soccer expert, Leonard is a fine squash player. Apparently he's beaten Dennis Tueart, which is no mean feat... believe me.

Oh, yes... Yvonne and I are expecting our first baby. When is it due? Around next May, just in time for the F.A. Cup Final.

Gordon McQueen

beat'

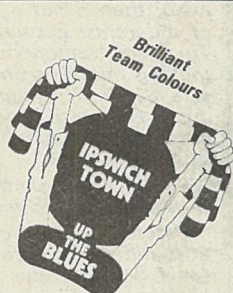
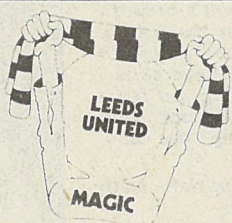
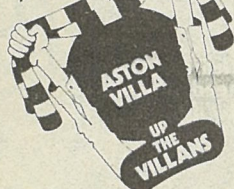
my soccer world

GORDON McQUEEN



Gordon in action against Arsenal at Highbury. United drew 1-1.

Actual Size 5" x 5 1/2"



SOCCER SWINGERS

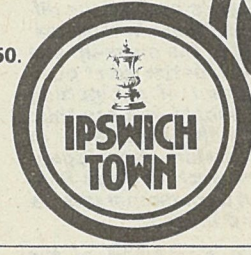
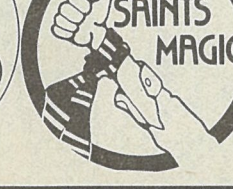
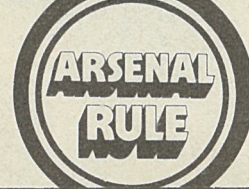
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TOUCHLINE PROMOTIONS
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IT'S AN argument which has raged through football for ages. Ray Clemence or Peter Shilton — which is England's best 'keeper?

Each has a legion of fans. It's accepted both are world-class. It's ironic two such superstars should "happen" to England in the specialist position for which there is room for only one.

Shilton, born in Leicester and first a professional with City there, developing under the guidance of also-great Gordon Banks. Nearly 300 League games for Leicester, then to Stoke for well over 100 more, and then to Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest, for £250,000. First capped for England in 1971. A six-footer, 12st. 10lb.

Clemence, born in Skegness, and a bargain buy for Liverpool from Scunthorpe. On the way to 400 League appearances for Liverpool and to 50 caps for England. First capped in 1973. A shade under 6ft. tall and 12st. 9lb.

Nearly four years ago, SHOOT put the Clemence versus Shilton poser to striker John Richards, of Wolves. Analysing the duo in various aspects of the goalkeeping art, he put Shilton way ahead ... "best in the country".

But Clemence has since picked up the England caps.

Now the judge is Martin Peters, of Norwich City, once described by then England manager Sir Alf Ramsey as "ten years ahead of his time." This international (67 caps), one-time hero of West Ham and Spurs, has collected goals galore during an illustrious career. So into the contest and ...

Round One: Handling ability.

Peters: "I've got to say right away there's not a hair's-breadth of difference between these two. They are tremendous. They hate making mistakes and have super-safe hands. No juggling, no frills. Just complete confidence and assurance in handling the ball. Absolutely level."

Round Two: Distribution, both throwing and kicking.

Peters: "Well, I can make one little difference here — Peter Shilton's got a longer kick than the Liverpool lad. But they are both accurate in terms of distribution and that marks them out from so many other 'keepers, who are often happy just to get the ball away. These two use the ball."

Round Three: Bravery.

Peters: "You've got to be really brave to get to their level in goalkeeping. They don't stop to count the risks, but get in there where it often hurts. They are both brave, but agile enough to get away with it."

Round Four: Temperament.

Peters: "There's no obvious difference between them in this area. It's a vital part of the make-up of a class player, no matter what position. It is a point of not getting rattled. But I should just say this: Ray is behind the best team in Europe and therefore doesn't generally have as much to do as Shilton might. But both temperaments are very sound indeed."

Round Five: Command of the penalty-area.

Peters: "Again, they've just got to be on a par with each other. They command the areas and, what's

RAY CLEMENCE

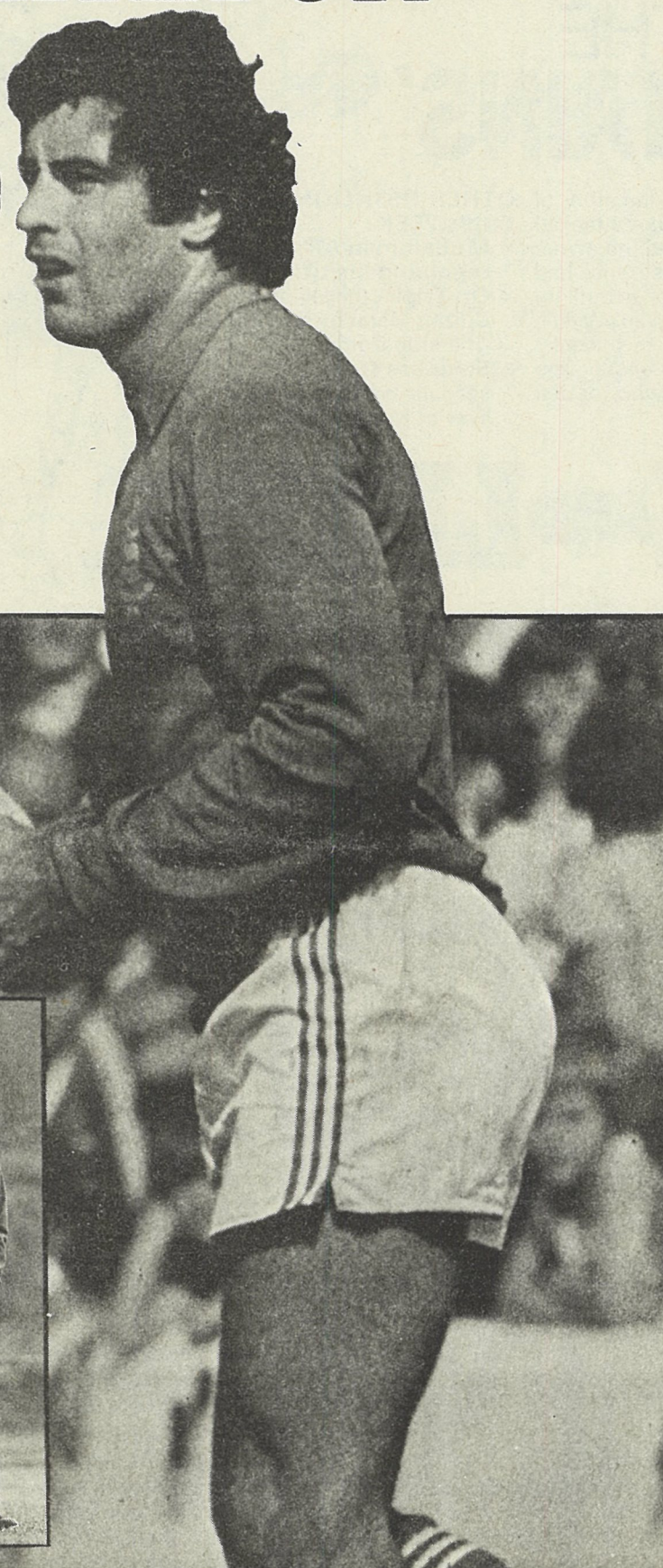
A Goalkeeping
10 Rounds To
Which Is
number one



Referee:
MARTIN PETERS

V PETER SHILTON

Contest Over Try To Decide England's No.1



Clemence and Shilton at an England get-together with boss Ron Greenwood.

more, command the other defenders very well. The six-yard box is one thing, but the ability to cope with the whole area is another, and Clemence and Shilton both have that ability."

Round Six: Agility and reflexes.

Peters: "Sorry to keep saying this, but it's level pegging again. These lads are probably numbers one and two in the world, though I'm not saying in which order! Agility and swift reflexes, the split-second change of direction and so on, are what their job is all about."

Round Seven: Reactions in a one-against-one situation.

Peters: "At least here I can talk about the way they are different to each other, even though they're both hard to face if you are the one against them. But Clemence tends to come well out and slide outside his area in this situation. Shilton plays it differently, trying to manoeuvre himself and the opponent into a position where the attacker's scope to score is cut down. It's a matter of how their respective clubs play. Clemence plays that way because Liverpool play it square in defence and the 'keeper virtually becomes another full-back. However, both men react brilliantly in this tricky situation."

Round Eight: Confidence at international, rather than club, level.

Peters: "Well, Clemence has the greater number of England games under his belt, though Shilton's England experience goes back longer. They both believe they are the best in the job, and Shilton would love to get back into the side. Right now, obviously, Clemence has the confidence of being the man in possession — and that gives him the edge."

Round Nine: Concentration.

Peters: "This can be a problem for goalkeepers in the position of Clemence or Shilton, for both are playing in good sides and sometimes they're not needed for 70 per cent of a game. That's when many 'keepers would find concentration wavering. But both Ray and Peter keep it going. Must be even-Stephen on this one."

Round Ten: Positional ability.

Peters: "As I said earlier, the way Liverpool plays as a team means different demands are made on Clemence's positional skills. They don't necessarily do it the same way, but they definitely do it well."

So what is the summing-up?

Peters: "Peter Shilton is the unlucky one. What with injuries and other things, he lost his England place and the plain truth is Ray Clemence doesn't make mistakes for England. Shilton has to keep going and hope for a recall. I would just say this, though: I believe Shilton has improved as a player since he linked up with Nottingham Forest. Ron Greenwood is the lucky man, having two such 'keepers available."

"I just wouldn't say anything to put either Ray or Peter ahead of the other. Just offer congratulations to Clemence for the way he plays for England — and sympathy to that other fine player in the wings through no fault of his own!"

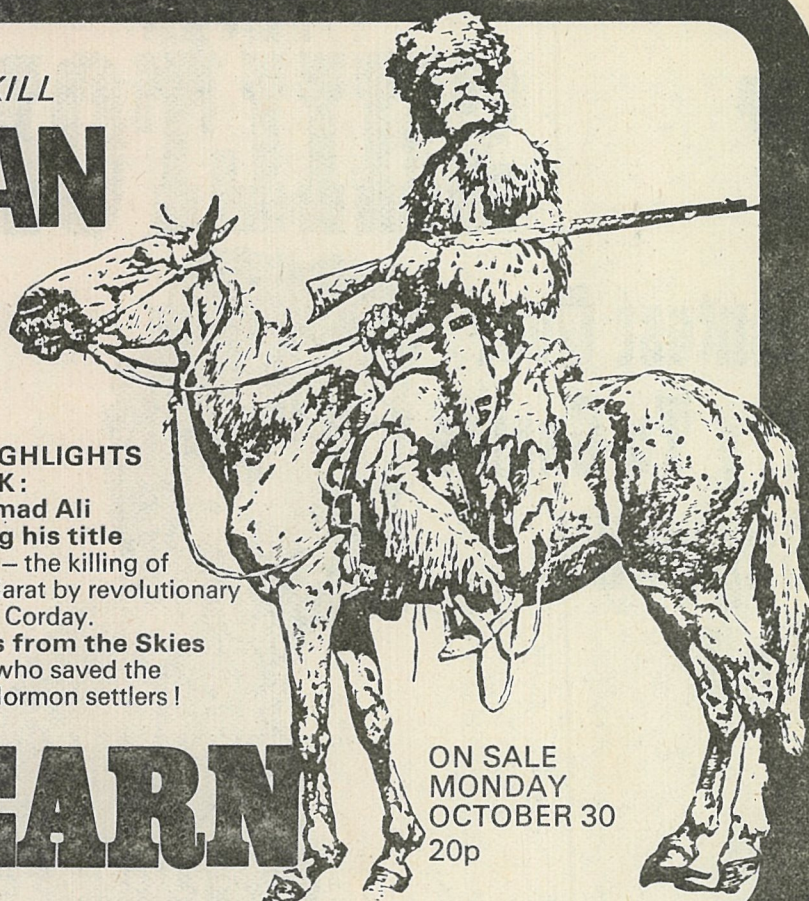
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BIG MATCH CROSSTALK

SPURS v BOLTON
Saturday, 28th October



Spurs' Don McAllister (centre) goes close with a header during their 1-0 win at White Hart Lane against Bolton last season.

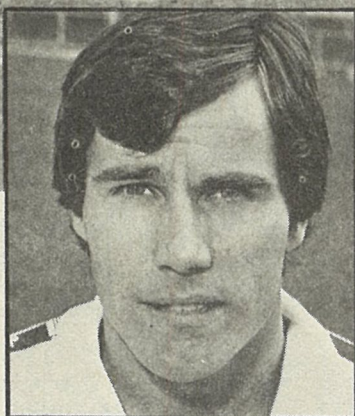
MORGAN: Hello, Peter. We're all looking forward to meeting up with Spurs again. We had some tremendous battles against you in the Second Division and we're hoping it will be another good occasion this time.

TAYLOR: I hope so, too, Willie. But I wonder whether the atmosphere will be quite the same this time. Last season we were probably the two top teams in the Second Division so our matches were bound to attract big crowds, but now we're just two Division One clubs feeling our way.

MORGAN: The nice thing about last season was there was never any needle in our games, even though there was obviously a lot of rivalry. And it was nice to meet another team who wanted to play football. As you know, not many teams do that in the Second. They are mostly trying to stop you playing. How are you finding it back in the First?

TAYLOR: Not too bad, now. We had a decidedly shaky start, but we had three new players — the two Argentinian lads and John Lacy from Fulham. When you get three newcomers in the side like that, especially with two coming from a completely different environment, it's bound to take time to adjust.

MORGAN: I'm hoping we've turned the corner now, as well. I know it sounds like the old excuse but we really have had an unbelievable crop of injuries. They've been going down like ninepins here. For the past few seasons, we've been very lucky on that front, fielding the same team week after week. So perhaps it's



'We've settled down after a decidedly shaky start'

PETER TAYLOR
(Spurs)

evening-out now.

TAYLOR: From what I saw of you last season — and we saw enough of you, considering we met in the F.A. Cup — I would think you could hold your own in Division One. You've got a lot of hard-working players and that should see you all right. You won't do bad, Willie.

MORGAN: Thanks. The way we look at it, this is going to be a term of consolidation. I think you have to do that when you get back into the First Division. If you can survive that first season, you can go on to better things from there. Teams like Aston Villa and Norwich have proved that. They struggled at first but now they're useful sides.

TAYLOR: Frank Worthington seems to be enjoying his return to the First Division, but then that is



'Our priority must be First Division survival'

WILLIE MORGAN
(Bolton)

no surprise to me. I've always rated Frank. Of course, you've got Alan Gowling up-front now to worry defences and I would imagine he's making a few goals for Worthy.

MORGAN: Yes, he is. But he fell foul of the injury bug the other week. He pulled a hamstring in the first five minutes of our game against Leeds. As I said earlier, once one gets fit, someone else seems to go down. It's got to the stage where you're wondering who is going to be next.

TAYLOR: We've made a few changes here, as I'm sure you've noticed. Steve Perryman has moved out of the defence to return to his midfield role and he's made us a lot more solid in that department. And we've had Glenn Hoddle, one of our best midfield

men, playing up-front.

MORGAN: I couldn't believe it when I saw Hoddle was dropped a few weeks ago. It just shows you what a crazy game we're in when players like that can't be sure of a place. But then I think it's difficult for the very skilful players — like you and I, of course, Peter — to keep it up right through the season.

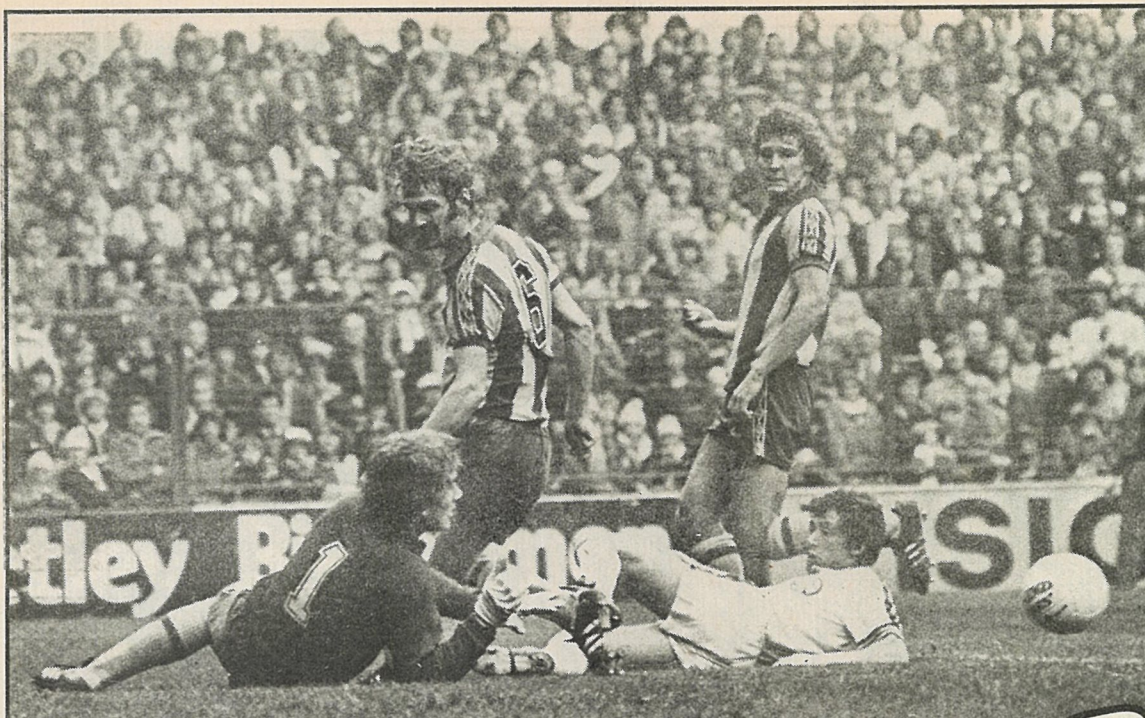
TAYLOR: The other big success for us has been Jimmy Holmes. He's playing at sweeper and has done even better than we could have expected. The Argentinian players are looking good, too, and once they reach their peak, we'll be a pretty fair side. I don't see us being in relegation trouble this season. We expect to push up the table from now on. Who has impressed you in Division One?

MORGAN: West Brom played very well against us, but the side who have impressed me most are Liverpool. We tried to contain them early on but they keep powering after you and once one goes in, they tend to destroy you. I don't know why I'm telling you because you know all about Liverpool's forward power.

TAYLOR: After getting hammered 7-0, we ought to. But all credit to them, they played exceptionally well that day.

MORGAN: For me, the team who finishes above Liverpool, will win the title. Look forward to the match, Peter, though I may not see much of you as we both play on the left-wing.

TAYLOR: Well, I switch over to the right sometimes so I may pop over and have a few words, Willie. Especially if we're winning.



Leeds' Trevor Cherry (white strip) slides in, but West Brom 'keeper Tony Godden clears.

Superbly taken . . . Kenny Dalglish chips home Liverpool's third goal in their 5-0 rout of Derby County.

PHOTO SPECIAL





An unhappy debut for Birmingham City's Alberto Tarantini — here Spurs' winger Peter Taylor centres during his club's 1-0 victory.

Manchester City's Brian Kidd takes off against Coventry at Maine Road, while City's Bobby McDonald (right) runs in.

The evergreen Barry Kitchener of Millwall tackles Sheffield United's Steve Finnieston (stripes).



adidas awards

THE Liverpool trophy room already has a new addition — the Adidas "Team of the Year" trophy. Chairman John Smith and manager Bob Paisley (left) are shown collecting the coveted award at a special ceremony recently at the Lido, in Paris. Runners-up in the Adidas "League" were Dutch club P.S.V. Eindhoven, who won the U.E.F.A. Cup, and in joint third place were the U.E.F.A. Cup losing Finalists, Bastia, based in Corsica and playing in the French League, and another club from Holland, Anderlecht, winners of the Cup-Winners' Cup.

At the same ceremony, Adidas awarded trophies to commemorate goalscoring feats. The "Gol-

den Boots" went to Hans Krankl, Austria's most outstanding player in the Argentina World Cup Finals, scorer of 41 goals for Rapid of Vienna (below, left). Carlos Bianchi, the Argentine playing for Paris St. Germain, collected the "Silver Boot". He scored 37 goals for his club in 1977-78, and is on the far right.

Next to Carlos is Ruud Geels, winner of the "Bronze Boot", scorer of 32 goals for Ajax, who arrived after playing for Holland against Luxembourg.

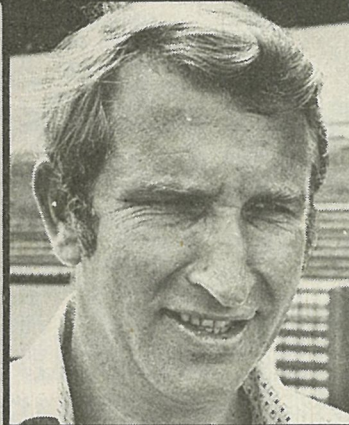
Sandwiched between Krankl and Geels is Bob Latchford, scorer of the 30 League goals that earned him £10,000 and a special plated boot earlier this year from the Daily Express and adidas.



FOUR top bosses



BOBBY ROBSON
(Ipswich)



ALAN DICKS
(Bristol City)

1. What do you look for in various positions?

A goalkeeper should have good hands and command his area. And he should be good on crosses, not just the high ones but the ones on the ground too. That is why he needs to be agile.

Peter Shilton is very good with the ball in the air but he makes some marvellous low saves too. I don't really believe I can separate the outfield positions. What you look for in one you also look for in the others. There is always something in a player that excites you. But all great players have pace so speed is something I look for. And I want to see if they have control, touch and balance.

All these things come into it. And it doesn't matter whether you are looking at a full-back, midfielder or striker. I always like to see a player several times before I sign him to check out all these things. And I want to see if he gives the impression of being a good athlete. Great players in any sport are essentially good athletes.

The goalkeeper is on his own and a good one can be worth ten points in a season to you. I look for command of the area, good handling and general well being.

Full-backs and defenders should be able to defend in the first instance. These days you often get backs who are good going forward but are suspect at the job they are supposed to be doing. You look for that extra balance to go forward to play, but that's a bonus. I feel I'm very lucky to have someone who can do that in Norman Hunter but people like him are few and far between.

In midfield you want men who are quick, have vision, and those who can distribute. It's a question of balance because you need to get the ball from the other side as well as using it yourself.

Up-front I like to see players who can go wide. We've got one here in Clive Whitehead but I think one of the best wingers in the game is Steve Heighway. He has got the speed to go down the line and he also has the ability to cut inside so that a defender never knows which way he will go. Playing up-front is all about control and passing and that's the basics you look for.

2. Do you prefer youth or experience?

I like to see youngsters in the side but if you had all youngsters you would not get very far. They can let you down because they don't know the game enough and I don't think a player reaches his peak until about 26 or 27 over all it is a balance — when you go after a player you are looking for the piece of jigsaw that you think is missing.

As far as I am concerned the ability to play over-rides age. We've got Kevin Mabbutt who is just 19-years-old and Norman Hunter who is 35. There is 16 years difference between them but both have every right to be in the side.

3. Who do you regard as your best-ever signing?

Paul Mariner. He has done tremendously well since coming up from the Third Division. Allan Hunter has to be a very close second. They are both completely different players of course which demonstrates what I am saying about balance.

One of my best was John Galley who scored 17 goals in 21 games in the 1967-68 season. I've been pleased with a few of my signings but that was special because that was someone who came and scored goals to win matches. You are always looking for someone like that.

4. Who is the one that got away?

I am not going to tell you. I don't think it's fair to the player concerned.

Trevor Francis. We bought him up from Plymouth when he was a youth player and I was very hopeful of signing him, but in the end he went to Birmingham. Looking back it was a bad miss but no one could have known then how good he was going to be.

5. If money was no object who is the one player you would like to sign above all others?

Allan Simonsen always impresses me as short, sharp and quick when I see him. But I've only watched him play two or three times and I like to see a player a lot more than that before I make any decisions. Kevin Keegan also has to be one of the best players around.

Kevin Keegan. That's if he wanted to come back to England. But even if I had unlimited money I wouldn't buy him for the sake of it. It is only worth it if you feel you can get players who are better than the ones you already have. And the devil you know is often better than the one you don't.

6. What are your views on foreigners coming into our football?

I think it is a good thing for the game and we are going to see more coming in because managers can't get the players they want here. The best players are normally already attached to other clubs. We got our Dutch chap Arnold Muhren because we couldn't find a left-sided midfielder player in England. It's like buying a tie if you can't find what you want in the first shop you try three or four more.

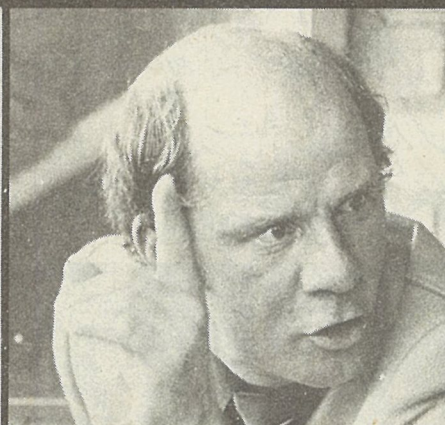
I'm for it but at the moment I think it's a law for the rich and another for the poor. They are only letting in the top class players but I don't see why Hartlepool shouldn't be able to sign a youngster if the occasion arose. The influx of foreign players is good for the game but I believe it should be over the whole structure of the League.

hit for SIX

SHOOT put four leading managers on the spot with these leading questions.



**LAWRIE
McMenemy**
(Southampton)



**JIM
SMITH**
(Birmingham)

In a goalkeeper I look for command of the area, obviously a safe pair of hands and ideally I think he should be tall. Then when he comes out he can stop any attack. Some goalkeepers just stand behind a defence but the top ones give you something extra when everyone is beaten like Peter Shilton of Nottingham Forest.

I know it sounds silly but the first thing I look for in a defender is his ability to defend. He's got to have an awareness of defensive situations and the team likes to know that he is going to be hard to go past. If he can go forward too that's a bonus. They have to be quick these days the day of the slow defender is gone.

Midfield is the engine room. They are the people who pull all the the strings. You've got to have workers with class, touch and vision and if you get all those things together you've got Alan Ball haven't you? He has situations sized up before the ball gets to him so his little bit of the move looks easy. But really it's the hardest job of all.

Courage must come very high on the strikers' list. The old fashioned centre-forward used to stand just outside the box and when the cross came in from the wing he'd fly at it like a bullet from a gun and go through everybody. But his run was easily plotted. Today you are looking for strikers with more cunning and skill, but they are no less brave.

The main quality I look for in a goalkeeper is presence if you know what I mean. He has got to have command of his job and be the boss in the penalty-area. Defenders for me need two main qualities. First they have got to be able to win the ball and second to be capable of using it. One without the other really won't do. If he can't win it he will never get the chance to use it.

Midfield is another area where you are looking for two main things. In this case it is vision and industry. You want players who are going to work hard and players with the ability to see what is on. Ideally you would like to have a player with both those qualities but normally you use players with one or the other to try and strike a balance.

It may sound obvious but one of the main things I look for in a forward is the ability to strike the ball well. Obviously they have to be brave but the things I look out for is the ability to do something different. To catch a defender by surprise with a piece of individual skill.

I think there is no replacement for experience because you've got to do it before you know what it is all about. Obviously you can't have too many oldens or you'd be over-run by a younger team. But you can't beat knowledge of the game.

I think you have got to have more experience than youth and if the experience players can do it for you you want them in the side. Having said that, nothing gives me a bigger thrill than seeing a young lad in the first team doing well.

Pound for pound it has to be Alan Ball. His enthusiasm and dedication are tremendous. I pride myself on the fact that in these days of inflation I've built a First Division team that has only one six-figure signing — that's Phil Boyer who I bought from Norwich for £120,000.

Noel Brotherston. And I didn't pay a penny for him. I got him on a free transfer when I was at Blackburn and he scored 11 goals in the Second Division at 21 in his first season. That takes a bit of doing for any player and it gave me a lot of satisfaction.

Colin Todd. I was upset because I had him in the net and then he decided to go to Everton. It was a domestic decision in the end. But I was pleased to know we were able to compete with a side like Everton for a player of his class.

When I was at Colchester I arranged to sign Phil Neal from Northampton but the £8,000 fee was too much. It sounds silly now doesn't it? The other one I almost got was Brian Talbot before he broke into the Ipswich team but again the fee was a stumbling block.

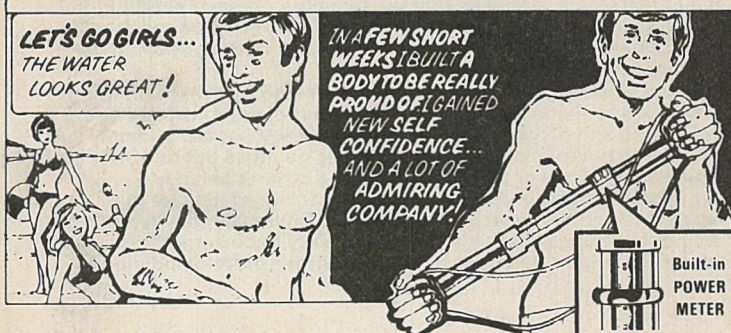
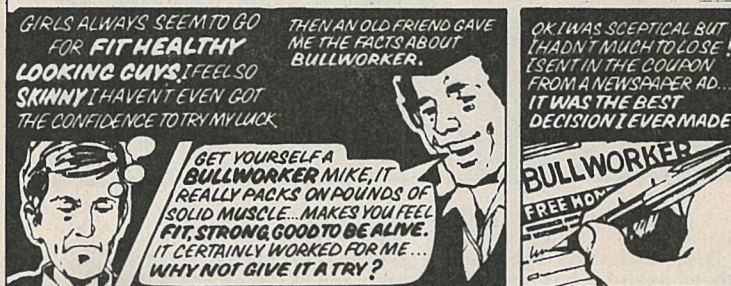
Kevin Keegan. He's probably as good as anyone because he's done it all and knows it all. And if I could persuade him to play again I think Johan Cruyff might get a look in.

Kenny Dalglish. He's a tremendous finisher — one of the best in the game and also a great team player. He's got the ability to do it on his own but there is no way you could call him selfish.

I'm for it as my signing of Ivan Golac from Yugoslavia proves. They have better techniques than British players because they work harder at them as young players. And people needn't worry that we are going to get over-run with foreigners because clubs would only buy players who they know are going to be assets to their team. A lot would also depend how the imports stand up to their first hard British winter. If they don't do so well other clubs may not be so keen in the future.

Providing the influx of foreign players is controlled I think it is an exciting thing for the game. The players will certainly add something skill wise but I think each club should be limited to two players. It also seems unfair that the lower Division clubs are unable to take advantage of it.

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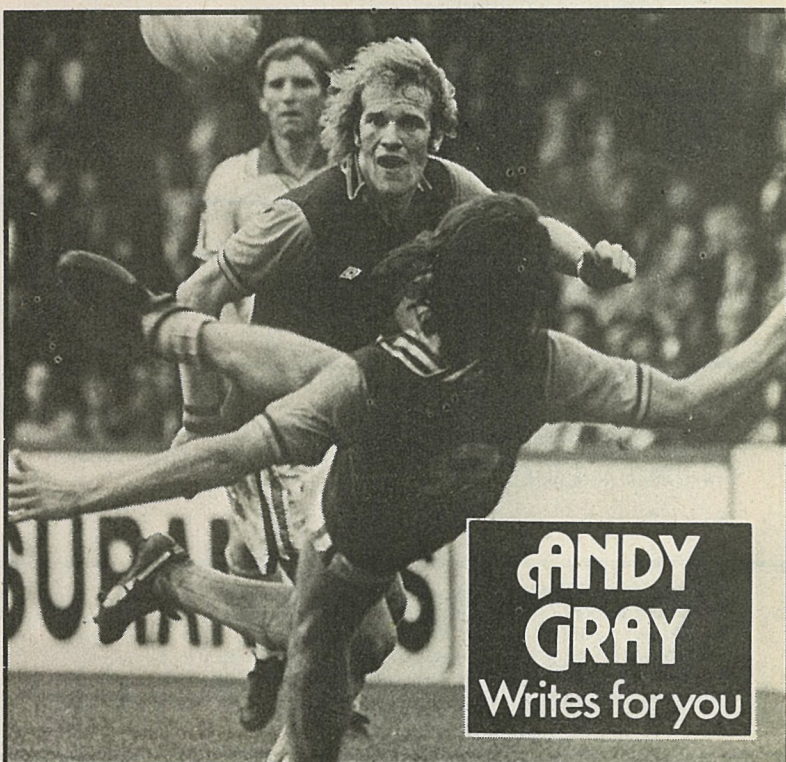
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'WORST~EVER



INJURY CRISIS TITLE HOPES'



ANYONE who has been around our training ground the last few weeks could have been forgiven for thinking they'd walked into the filming of Emergency Ward 10! Villa have had so many injuries we've had to bring in an extra physio to cope with things.

It must be the worst crisis in the club's history and sadly, I must admit our injury toll has probably cost us our chance of winning the Championship.

We started the season well, and were handily placed behind the leaders, then we hit a patch when we were losing a player per game. It almost got to the situation when the 11 fittest players at the club played for the first team! Now, Liverpool have a good lead over us and it'll be hard to pull back, although you never know...

What makes it frustrating is it's not really our fault results have been inconsistent. If you play badly, then you can have no complaints.

Our drop down the table has been due to the fact we haven't been able to field anything like our strongest side each week.

We've had so many injuries, it's difficult to remember them all, but: JIMMY RIMMER... a bad toe

which has restricted his movement JOHN GIDMAN... torn ligaments in a knee
GORDON SMITH... cartilage operation
ALEX CROPLEY... out for a year, but will hopefully get the all-clear for competitive football any day now, after his leg-break
FRANK CARRODUS... thigh strain
DENNIS MORTIMER... knee injury
GORDON COWANS... broken bone in a foot
GARY SHELTON... torn knee ligaments
BRIAN LITTLE... stomach trouble
DAVID EVANS... blood vessel burst in a thigh
ALLAN EVANS... ankle trouble
KEN McNAUGHT... carried off at Crystal Palace with a knee injury
DIXIE DEEHAN... has had a nagging injury since the start of the season
ANDY GRAY... read on.

I've had a thigh strain, which I aggravated by playing with it. I shouldn't really have played at Crystal Palace — I'd have preferred another few days rest to ensure the trouble had cleared up completely.

Yet with the injury crisis so bad, I was virtually forced to make an early

HITS VILLA'S

comeback. Had we had a clean bill of health, I certainly wouldn't have played.

I didn't bargain for extra-time, either! Still, I suppose it's the best way to get fit quickly!

I went to Manchester for a minor manipulative operation. I was "put out" for about 30 minutes, while a surgeon and physio stretched the troublesome thigh muscle. It would have been painful had I not been under anaesthetic; as it was, I was okay.

Ron Saunders tried to get our match against Arsenal at Highbury postponed. I think he was justified,



"Ken McNaught (number 5) injured a knee at Crystal Palace."

because the game is all about entertainment and because we had to field such a makeshift team, we were forced to play defensively for a draw, which we deservedly got.

Villa aren't a defensive side and under normal circumstances would have gone forward much more. It isn't fair fans should pay to see such a display, but it was out of our hands. Three players played for Villa at Highbury who were not 100 per cent, yet we were running out of players!

Our normal back-four has been John Gidman, Ken McNaught, Allan Evans and Gordon Smith — yet this combination has hardly played together because of injuries.

Things got so bad, we could hardly make two teams for five-a-side in training. Our training camp has been isolated, with all the activity in the treatment room!

Still, the young kids who have been thrown in the deep end have done magnificently. I think Gary Williams and Brendan Ormsby have had their eyes opened in the past three or four weeks.

Ideally, the manager would have liked to introduce the youngsters slowly and in his time. It's much better for them to come into the team when it's doing well and things are running smoothly.

In the event, we did extremely well to beat Crystal Palace in the League Cup in the second replay. We would have won at Villa Park had Tommy Craig missed what I believe is only his second penalty. We were 1-0 up at the time and that would have killed Palace.

Tommy was, naturally, most upset, especially when he heard the next round opponents would be Luton Town at home.

Our performance at Selhurst Park in the 0-0 extra-time draw was very professional. It was a tribute to our courage and determination that we didn't cave in, even if Lady Luck was with us at times. Anyway, she was well overdue coming!

I made a, how shall I say, controversial comeback — by being booked! I became very frustrated by some of the referee's decisions and I feel he made the game look far worse than it was. I exploded when he sent-off young Allan Evans. What I said isn't printable!

Palace impressed me. They could go up, although we showed them just what they can expect in the First Division. They may find they need a couple of experienced players to bring on their talented youngsters.

I particularly liked the David Swindlehurst/Mike Elwiss combination up-front. At the back, centre-backs Jim Cannon and Billy Gilbert look solid, helped by the promising Kenny Sansom.

In goal, my mate John Burridge is a tremendous influence — he's a good pro and a nice fellow.

I'm glad to say our injury crisis is now clearing up and we've welcomed back one or two of our "corks" in the past couple of weeks.

All things considered, I'm happy to still be in the League Cup. Considering some of the makeshift teams we've had to field, Villa have done well, remembering so many First Division clubs have fallen by the wayside.

It was good to score twice against Palace in the second replay at Coventry, although I should have had a hat-trick.

This Friday (October 27th) we face Middlesbrough at Villa Park and these are games we simply MUST win to have any hope of staying in touch with the leaders.

We lost 1-0 to them in the corresponding game last year, when Stan Cummins had a blinder. Boro are never easy to beat... they give nothing away... but I'll be very disappointed with anything less than a victory. And, of course, no more injuries!

Join me again in a fortnight.

Andy Gray

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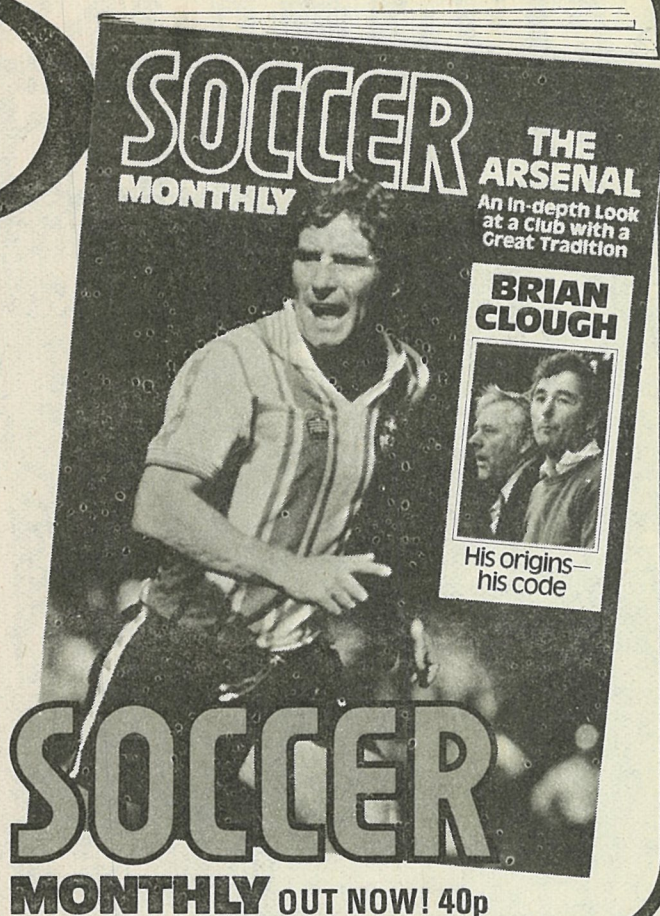
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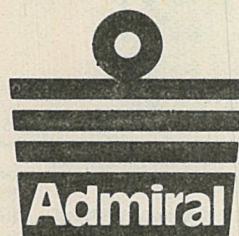
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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

MIDDLESBROUGH

compiled by JOHN PYKE

ROLL OF HONOUR

Second Division Championship: 1926-27, 1928-29, 1973-74.
F.A. Amateur Cup Winners: 1895, 1898.

ONE RECORD Middlesbrough hold and cannot lose is they are the only League club to have won the F.A. Amateur Cup, a feat they achieved twice before the dawn of the 20th Century.

But a brief look (and it will only need a brief glance) reveals Middlesbrough, despite their long history, have not much else to shout about.

The reason is hard to understand. If goals are the yardstick for success, then Middlesbrough should have carried off more trophies than any other side in the country.

Middlesbrough and great centre-forwards go together like bread and butter. Through the years the Ayresome supporters have feasted on goals galore. Opponents' nets bulged as stars from the distant past to more recent days walked on to the Ayresome stage.

Names like Alf Common, Steve Bloomer, George Elliott, George Camsell, Mick Fenton, Brian Clough, Alan Peacock and John Hickton.

Now the Boro fans hope the mould has only been temporary lost and not destroyed.

Some unkind readers may read more into it — but the club was formed at a tripe supper in 1876!

In 1889, a breakaway group in the club formed the Ironopolis Football Club and Middlesbrough were forced to turn professional.

Amateur

When the Ironopolis club disbanded in 1892, Middlesbrough reverted to the amateur ranks and won the F.A. Amateur Cup in 1895 and 1898.

A year later, Middlesbrough turned professional again and were elected to the Second Division of the Football League.

They finished 14th in their first season and that was followed by a position of sixth and then second in 1901-02 and promotion.

In the same season, Boro moved to Ayresome Park and goalkeeper Tim Williamson played his first game for the club. Williamson was to play 563 League games and still holds the aggregate appearance record for them.

In 1905, Middlesbrough signed Alf Common from Sunderland and they paid the first-ever £1,000 transfer fee to get him.

Boro were to stay in the First Division until the end of the 1923-24 season when they were relegated for three seasons, winning promotion in 1926-27 as Champions of the Second Division.

That season also, George Camsell set up a new Football League scoring record by hitting 59 League goals in only 37 Second Division appearances.

Alas, George was to hold that record for only 12 months. Dixie Dean went one goal better for First Division Everton in 1927-28 by scoring 60 League goals. Although Camsell's total is still a Second Division record!

Another consolation for Camsell was the fact he still holds the aggregate scoring record for the club with 326 League goals between 1925-39.

Even with ace scorer Camsell, Middlesbrough went straight back

like full-back George Hardwick, England's skipper for the first 13 post-War internationals, Middlesbrough could not win a major honour.

At the end of the 1953-54 season, Boro were relegated to the Second Division and 12 seasons of Division Two soccer followed for the Ayresome Park crowds.

It is somehow ironic that as Middlesbrough were chosen as a World Cup venue for the 1966 Finals and entertained Russia,

Goals galore but few trophies

down to the Second Division as they finished bottom in 1927-28. But their 37 points were only two points poorer than Sheffield Wednesday who finished 14th in the First Division!

If Boro were not good enough for the First, they were too good for the Second and were Champions at the first attempt in the 1928-29 season.

Those who were lucky enough to have seen the BBC 2 TV programme on Wilf Mannion on October 5th, will know how brilliant this inside-forward was.

Mannion began his career with Boro two seasons before World War Two. He went on to win 26 England caps after the War, but what a pity that for seven seasons English football was robbed of his great skill by Herr Hitler.

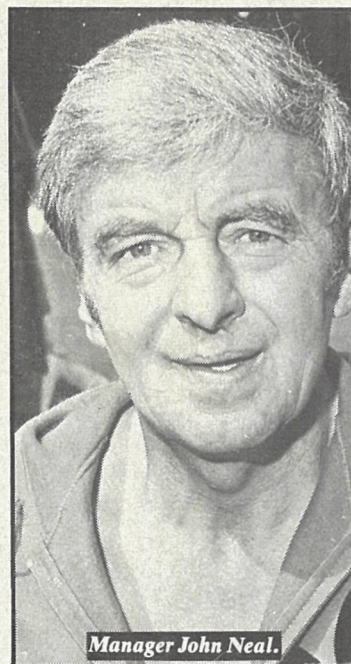
Even with Mannion and players

Italy, Chile and North Korea, they were relegated at the end of the 1965-66 season to the Third Division. The brand-new seating in the stands at Ayresome were more dusted than sat in as crowds dwindled.

Promotion to the Second Division followed after only twelve months in the Third as runners-up and 11 points behind Champions Q.P.R.

Middlesbrough were to stay in Division Two until the end of the 1973-74 season. Then under manager Jack Charlton they carried all before them by winning the Second Division title with a clear 15 points lead over runners-up Luton Town.

Boro on the defensive as they head for another League defeat this term . . . against Manchester United at Old Trafford.



Manager John Neal.

LEAGUE FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	Results	Venue
Aug			
19	Coventry C.	1-2	H
22	Birm'ham C.	1-3	A
26	South'pton	2-1	A
Sept			
2	Ipswich T.	0-0	H
9	Everton	0-2	A
16	Q.P.R.	0-2	H
23	Nottm. For.	2-2	A
30	Arsenal	2-3	H
Oct			
7	Man. Utd.	2-3	A
14	Norwich C.	2-0	H
21	Wolves		H
28	Aston Villa		A
Nov			
4	Bristol C.		H
11	Coventry C.		A
18	South'pton		H
21	Ipswich T.		A
25	Liverpool		A
Dec			
2	Tot'ham H.		H
9	W.B.A.		A
16	Chelsea		H
23	Leeds U.		A
26	Bolton W.		H
30	Derby Co.		H
Jan			
1	Man. City		A
13	Everton		H
20	Q.P.R.		A
Feb			
3	Nottm. For.		H
10	Arsenal		A
17	Man. Utd.		H
24	Norwich C.		A
Mar			
3	Wolves		A
10	Aston Villa		H
17	Bristol C.		A
24	Birm'ham C.		H
31	Liverpool		H
Apr			
7	Tot'ham H.		A
10	Leeds U.		H
14	Bolton W.		A
17	Man. City		H
21	Chelsea		A
28	W.B.A.		H
May			
5	Derby Co.		A

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Continued on page 26

MIDDLES



BACK ROW (left to right): John Craggs, Graeme Hedley, Alan Walsh, David Mills, Willie Woof, David Shearer, Peter Johnson.

CENTRE ROW: Bobby Murdoch (coach), Alan Ramage, Jim Platt (on loan to H), Billy Ashcroft, Tony McAndrew, Willie Clayton (physio).

BROUGH



(ch), David Armstrong, John Mahoney,
(partlepool), Jim Stewart, David Brown,
ie Maddren, John Coddington (coach),

FRONT ROW: Jimmy Greenhalgh (coach), Craig Johnston, Charlie Bell,
Stuart Boam, Stan Cummins, Ian Stokoe, Billy Askew, Ian Bailey,
John Neal (manager).

SHOOT!

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

CONTINUED

PEN PICTURES

(L. App:— League Appearances; G:— Goals; S:— Substitutes. All records to the end of the 1977-78 season).

DAVID ARMSTRONG: Midfielder or striker and has been ever-present in the Middlesbrough side for the past five seasons. An England Under-23 international. Born Durham. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 11.0. L. App:— 234 and 2 sub. G:— 31.

BILL ASHCROFT: Striker signed from Wrexham for £130,000 in September, 1977. Born Liverpool. Ht. 6.1. Wt. 13.0. L. App:— Wrexham 196 and 23 sub, Middlesbrough 36. G:— Wrexham 71, Middlesbrough 6.

IAN BAILEY: Defender signed professional in October, 1974. Spent the summer playing soccer in the North American League. Born Middlesbrough. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 10.10. L. App:— Carlisle (loan) 7, Doncaster (loan) 9, Middlesbrough 39 and 4 sub. G:— Carlisle (loan) 1.

STUART BOAM: Central-defender signed from Mansfield Town in June, 1971 for £50,000. Likes to move up from defence and has scored some vital goals for Boro.



Born Kirkby. Ht. 6.2. Wt. 13.5. L. App:— Mansfield 175, Middlesbrough 280. G:— Mansfield 2, Middlesbrough 13.

MICKEY BURNS: Striker who spent only two months with Cardiff City after his transfer from Newcastle United before signing for Middlesbrough in October, 1978 for £75,000. Born Blackpool. Ht. 5.7. Wt. 10.8½. L. App:— Blackpool 173 and 6 sub, Newcastle 143 and 2 sub. G:— Blackpool 53, Newcastle 39.

JOHN CRAGGS: Defender and is one of the finest over-lapping full-backs in the game. Signed from Newcastle United for £60,000 in August, 1971. Born Flinthill. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 12.5. L. App:— Newcastle 50 and 2 sub, Middlesbrough 274. G:— Newcastle 1, Middlesbrough 11.

TERRY COCHRANE: Irish international winger signed from Burnley for a club record £210,000 in October, 1978. Born Killyleagh. Ht. 5.7. Wt. 10.6. L. App:— Burnley 56 and 5 sub. G:— 12.

STAN CUMMINS: Striker signed professional in December, 1976. Brilliant ball-player and has powerful shot in either foot and certain to make a big name for himself in the game. Born Durham. Ht. 5.5. Wt. 9.2. L. App:— 24 and 3 sub. G:— 6.

GRAEME HEDLEY: Midfielder or striker noted for his accurate passing. Had a spell on loan to Sheffield



TOP LEAGUE SCORERS

1973-74	Alan Foggson	19
1974-75	Alan Foggson	16
1975-76	David Mills	10
1976-77	David Mills	15
1977-78	David Mills	10



David Armstrong (far left). Billy Ashcroft (left) was signed from Wrexham. Experienced right-back John Craggs (above). John Mahoney (right) is a Welsh international.

Wednesday last season. Signed professional in March, 1975. Born Easingham. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 10.7. L. App:— Sheff. Wed. (loan) 6, Middlesbrough 11 and 3 sub. G:— Sheff. Wed. (loan) 1, Middlesbrough 3.

CRAIG JOHNSTON: Midfielder signed professional in February, 1978. Born in South Africa but brought up in Australia and was so impressed when he saw Boro on tour Down Under, he came to England for a trial. Born Johannesburg. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 10.12. L. App:— 4 and 1 sub. G:— 1.

WILLIE MADDREN: Central-defender signed professional in June, 1968. League debut as a striker, but has switched to defender, then to midfield, now back as a defender. England Under-23 caps. Born Billingham. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 12.8. L. App:— 293 and 2 sub. G:— 19.

TONY McANDREW: Midfielder signed professional August, 1973. Noted for his tackling and also likes a crack at goal. Born Glasgow. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 11.8. L. App:— 93 and 1 sub. G:— 4.

JOHN MAHONEY: Midfielder signed from Stoke City in August, 1977 for £90,000. Started the 1978-79 season with 38 caps. Born Cardiff. Ht. 5.8. Wt. 11.2. L. App:— Crewe 16 and 2 sub, Stoke 270 and 12 sub, Middlesbrough 37. G:— Crewe 5, Stoke 25, Middlesbrough 1.

DAVID MILLS: Striker or midfielder signed in face of fierce opposition from ten other League clubs in December, 1968. Now, settled into midfield and has played eight times for England Under-23's. Born Whitby. Ht. 5.10. Wt. 11. L. App:— 261 and 17 sub. G:— 69.



Looking for a LIFT from young talent



THIS season Middlesbrough are facing a problem that has beset many clubs in the past. Their stars are not producing their best form and their talented youngsters have not the experience to replace them. Although the mindless few who barrack their efforts at Ayresome Park are not helping their cause, manager John Neal or the club.

A look at the Middlesbrough line-up suggests they should be doing a lot better than the lowly position they hold in the First Division. By the end of September, their only First Division victory was at Birmingham City. But at home, Boro had not won any of their first four home fixtures: losing to Coventry, Q.P.R. and Arsenal and drawing with Ipswich at Ayresome Park.

It is early days yet, but how the regular supporters could do with one of the great goalscorers of the past. Strikers who would fill the almost

empty Ayresome Park to watch their scoring exploits.

Middlesbrough paid Kilmarnock £110,000 for Scottish international goalkeeper Jimmy Stewart in the summer, and £75,000 recently for striker Mickey Burns from Cardiff, followed by a club record £210,000 for Terry Cochrane from Burnley. In front of Stewart are experienced defenders Stuart Boam and John Craggs. While David Mills and David Armstrong have skill galore. The Boro hope is the undoubted talent of youngsters like Stan Cummins (left), Ian Bailey, David Shearer and company blossoms quickly enough to ensure a reasonable season.

Sheffield Wednesday boss Jack Charlton, who was manager at Boro when they won promotion, describes Stan Cummins as the finest young player he has ever seen. If Stan is half as good as Wilf Mannion, then the Middlesbrough fans are in for a treat.

MARK PROCTER: Young striker and still an apprentice who has been given his League chance by Boro this season.

ALAN RAMAGE: Central-defender signed professional in December, 1975. Has also played cricket for Yorkshire. Born Guisborough. Ht. 6.2. Wt. 13.0. L. App:— 40 and 1 sub. G:— 1.

DAVID SHEARER: Striker signed professional in January, 1978. Scored twice on his debut against Chelsea on April 8th, 1978. Born Inverness. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 11.10. L. App:— 4. G:— 2.

JIM STEWART: Goalkeeper signed from Kilmarnock in May, 1978 for £110,000. Has won one full Scottish cap. Born Kilwinning. Ht. 6.2. Wt. 12.8.

BILLY WOOF: Striker signed professional in August, 1974. Born Gateshead. Ht. 5.10. Wt. 11.10. L. App:— Peterborough (loan) 2 and 1 sub, Middlesbrough 6 and 9 sub. G:— Middlesbrough 1.

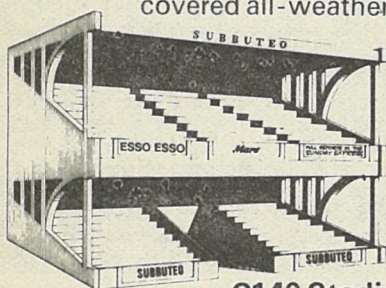


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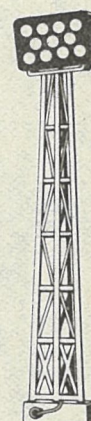
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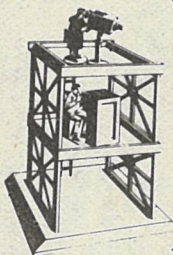
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'MATCH OF THE

QUESTION: when does a League match resemble a Cup Final? Answer: when it's a derby between Liverpool and Everton.

This Saturday sees the first of our two League meetings, viewed by many Merseysiders as the most important of the season.

The rivalry around here is so deep-rooted it's impossible to believe it's equalled anywhere else in the whole world, even in South America, where passions often reach flashpoint.

All week the coming match at Goodison Park has been the major talking point, in the factories, pubs, clubs and schools.

But although the city is polarised: you're either a supporter of The Blues or The Reds (if there are any neutrals I've yet to meet one), it's

very rare there's any violence.

Feelings run high, especially after a game when one side has won, but the disappointment is contained, and generally the most extreme reaction is someone putting a boot through his TV screen.

More and more emphasis is being placed on the games by Everton fans who rankle at the fact their team has failed to beat Liverpool for something like 15 games.

They were forced to swallow a bitter pill at the end of last season when Liverpool overhauled their favourites to steal the runners-up spot in a superb sprint finish that saw us mop up the points, including two at Goodison Park in a narrow 1-0 win.

This season we're sitting on top of the table with a strengthened Everton barking at our heels.

To some extent I can sympathise with the Evertonians, who have had the galling experience of seeing us collect three League Championships, one F.A. Cup, two Continental doubles of U.E.F.A. Cup and European Cup, all since 1969-1970 when their team won the Championship.

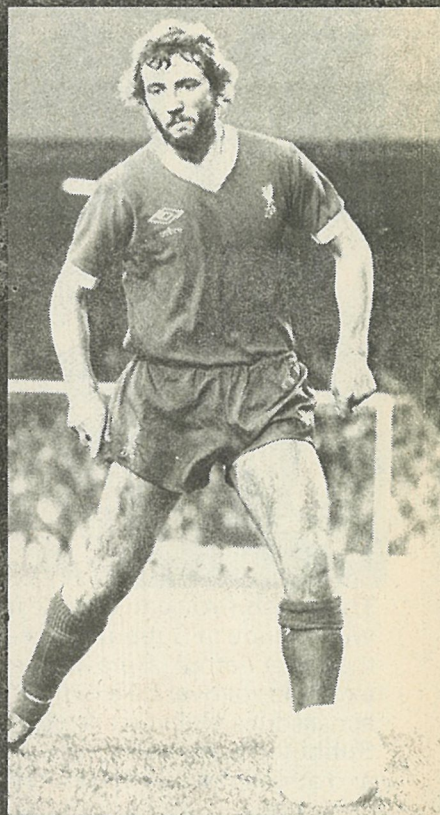
Title-winning

Even so, I can't resist mentioning that in their title-winning season Liverpool beat them in both League games.

In the period since 1970 we've twice baulked Everton bids to reach the F.A. Cup Semi-Final, at Old Trafford in 1971, which we won 2-1; and again in the 1977 Semi-Final, when after drawing 2-2 at Maine Road we won the replay by 3-0.

The one thing Evertonians do crow about at the moment is whereas we are now out of European competition, k.o.'d by Nottingham Forest in the First Round, they are still in the U.E.F.A. Cup after beating un-rated Irish club Finn Harps 10-0 on aggregate.

The only time I have watched The Blues "live" was in their second-leg at home against the Irishmen, which they won 5-0, the same



'Alan Kennedy already a Kop favourite'

scoreline as in the first-leg. They were unimpressive, though, only getting their last three goals in a burst in the closing stages.

According to friends who support Everton — yes, believe it or not, I have some — the team has been playing that way all season. But it's a good sign for a team that it can play below par and still pick up the points. Heaven help anyone who meets them when they strike top form. Fingers crossed it's not us!

It's very rare for a player to have played for both clubs. In my time on Merseyside there have been Johnny

RAY CLEMENCE
talking soccer

'Few goals~but a win for Everton' says DAVE THOMAS

AS Saturday, October 28th, draws nearer and the players and supporters of Everton and Liverpool prepare for the big showdown, one player looking forward to the battle is the Goodison Park club's talented winger Dave Thomas.

"I'm not even a local player — I come from the North-East — but I certainly get wrapped up in the atmosphere," says Thomas. "I've never known anything quite like

an Everton v. Liverpool derby.

"Although we try to treat the match as a normal League game you can't help feeling the tension and expectancy that is generated within the city."

Thomas has played in two local derbies and he classes them as highlights of the season.

"Definitely," says the England winger. "The city is split down the middle — you are either red or blue. Some supporters put more

emphasis on winning these games than the League Championship."

With both sides at the top of the table, this first confrontation of the season could take an extra meaning.

"It won't be a catastrophe if either side loses because it is still early enough in the season to make up the lost ground," continues Dave.

"We obviously don't want to be beaten and I'm sure we can end



YEAR AT GOODISON'

Morrissey, who was at Anfield before helping Everton to that 1970 title win, and Dave Johnson, who began at Goodison, then joined us via Ipswich Town.

Dave was the scorer in last season's win at Goodison — and coincidentally, scored the winner in Everton's last victorious meeting with us, seven seasons ago.

Dave, like Terry McDermott and Phil Thompson, is a local-born lad and it is they who feel the tension most in our games. They're really on edge in the run-up.

This term several players on both sides, the new signings, will suffer an experience akin to a soldier subjected to being under fire for the first time. For us, Alan Kennedy, already a Kop favourite. For them, Colin Todd, Mickey Walsh and possibly Geoff Nulty.

Their baptism will be something they will remember for all time. Unless they're properly prepared, it will be nerve-wracking.

After nearly eight years I still get keyed-up, although the high-tension atmosphere doesn't hit me as much as in my early days.

Revenge

I still don't enjoy the prospect, because of the knowledge that a defeat will have such a detrimental effect on my life. Reds' supporters would continually remind me of it, pointing out how they expect revenge in the next encounter, while those of The Blues would crow — and crow.

It must seem inconceivable to outsiders that some fans see a season's success solely in terms of which side finished above the other at the end of the season — irrespective of trophies won. But it's true.

Relationships between the players off the field are excellent — we often socialise, join forces in commercial ventures, and some of us play together for our countries.

But on the field, against each other, the pressure not to lose can result in over-hard tackling and occasional explosive moments.

That the derbies are seldom classics is not surprising. The ball whizzes about at a speed that precludes thoughtful football and players charge around like stampeding cattle.

There can be light-hearted moments, though. Liverpoolians

are renowned for their sense of humour — that accounts for so many Scouse comedians in show business — and their spontaneous remarks and actions are legendary.

They've coined all sorts of nicknames for players, some unprintable, and they've christened Phil Thompson "Pinocchio" because of his big nose.

Before a match at Anfield, Gordon West, 'keeper in Everton's last Championship side, was always presented by someone from The Kop with a lady's handbag!

Our former manager Bill Shankly, a Scotsman, endeared himself with many wisecracks. When John Toshack arrived from Cardiff City with his pretty, blonde wife Sue, Shanks nodded at her blue coat and said: "Don't worry, luv, we'll get you a red one!"

And when asked for his two favourite teams on Merseyside, he replied: "Liverpool — and Liverpool reserves!"

Bob Paisley, his successor, has a much drier wit, and gets his share of amusing quotes in the Press.

Possession

His counter-part at Everton, Gordon Lee, is also from the North-East, and consciously or not appears to be copying many of Bob's methods, modelling his team on Liverpool's.

For instance, at times adopting our technique of playing across the park at the back, keeping possession and building-up attacks from there.

Although invariably when we meet they tend to keep banging high balls up the middle to Bob Latchford, under the mistaken impression our defence is vulnerable in the air.

Gordon Lee has instilled the tremendous competitive spirit in his "troops" essential to winning something.

I haven't space here to mention all their players, so I'll single out the ones that always catch my eye.

Captain Micky Lyons, another Merseyside product who will keep running from first whistle to last, inspiring his team-mates. Micky has played in virtually every position, and would even go in goal if he were asked. Now he operates effectively at the back.

Andy King, who appears to have overcome his tendency to fade after a great start to the season; industrious in midfield and scoring his quota of goals.

Dave Thomas, so valuable to Everton when he plays, with those pinpoint crosses from the wing on the run or at dead-ball situations that mean every team-mate in or around the box has to be tight-marked.

Dave played a big part in helping Bob Latchford, my England team-mate, to accumulate the 30 League goals last season that won £10,000.

Last but by no means least, George Wood, the 'keeper, in spectacular, ultra-safe form. George was unlucky not to be selected to go to Argentina with Scotland this year, the reason being when then-manager Ally MacLeod came to run the rule over him he had a couple of his rare sub-standard games.

A sound 'keeper spreads confidence throughout his team, and that's what George does with Everton.

Making predictions about a game is dangerous. But I can safely say that, true to tradition, this one will be low-scoring due to tension and anxiety.

I know we and Bob Paisley will be smiling if we manage to come away with a point!



'Dave Johnson scored our winner last term'

Ray Clemence

our dismal run of seven seasons without a win against the Anfield Reds."

Liverpool have started the campaign in tremendous form and although Everton haven't been as spectacular they have stuck to the heels of Bob Paisley's men in the race for the League Championship.

"I know we trailed 'Pool by three points on October 14th," says Thomas, "but we are still within striking distance and this game could prove a real cracker for both the players and fans."

Which players in particular does Dave rate in the Liverpool side?

"All of them. They are established First Division players and you only have to look at their very impressive list of honours over the



Dave scores v. Arsenal. He hopes to be in similar form this Saturday.

past decade to realise you must treat them with the utmost respect.

"Having said that, though, we will not be over-awed by them. We have our own stars and ones capable of swinging the game our way and also we have the potential match-winner in Bob Latchford."

Finally, how does he envisage the clash of Merseyside finishing? "It is going to be a very tight affair," continues the Kirkby-in-Ashfield born Thomas. "I can't see many goals."

"Contrary to past derbies, I have a feeling the fans will be treated to an attacking game with, I hope, the Everton Blues coming out on top for the first time in a few seasons."

This week's Star Letter comes from Keith Denison of Rawdon, Leeds, who wins our Special Prize of £3. He writes:

YES, REFS ARE INCONSISTENT

AFTER reading your comment that the Football League should take a critical look at its referees, I went to see Leeds play Bolton. I couldn't agree more with you.

You could say I'm biased, but just about every paper agreed Carl Harris and Arthur Graham were chopped down in the first-half, but each time the offender escaped.

After the break, Graham and Byron Stevenson were booked for similar offences without delay, with Ray Hankin being cautioned for dissent. The ref may have been trying to keep the game flowing at first and then became annoyed. However, the inconsistency annoys many fans and may be partly responsible for on-the-field violence.

● I'd like to see referees being brave enough to take firm action EARLY in the game. There's a saying in soccer you never get booked for your first foul. A foul is a foul, be it in the first or second-half and should be punished accordingly. Yet how many bad fouls early in the game are punished? Far fewer than later in the game.

GOAL~LINES

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John's Back

IN your 8th July issue, there was an article on Spurs' John Pratt — "Tottenham's Unsung Hero" you called him. John remarked how the club had bought or introduced youngsters to replace him, yet he'd always fought back.

Soon after this article, Villa and Ardiles arrived at White Hart Lane. Most people thought John's Spurs days were numbered, yet once again he has forced his way back into the team.

CHRIS BROOKS, EPPING.

● John is the perfect example of a good professional. The Argentines may get more headlines, but without the likes of John Pratt the big names wouldn't function.

Hero Worship?

THE decision by Nottingham Forest to expose offenders in the club programme is, in my opinion, a bad one. Sensible people would be ashamed to have their name printed in the Black List, but

for hooligans it is surely not a deterrent, but almost hero worship!

PAM WILKINSON, SOUTHPORT.

● I congratulate any club who does anything positive in the fight against hooliganism. Forest, overall, have done more than most to curb the thugs.

Germans Best

I AM sick of hearing Englishmen say their League is the best in the world. What a load of rubbish.

I was recently in West Germany and saw a German League match. VfB Stuttgart beat Nuremberg 4-0 in front of 52,000 fans and the game was full of excitement, flair and pace. The match was much better than any I have ever been to in England, Scotland, Italy and Belgium.

I believe the German League is the best in the world.

JOHN MARTIN, GLASGOW.

● Your comments would have been more credible if you'd seen

more than one game — and didn't come from Scotland! Whatever any Scot, or anyone, may say about the Football League, it is, without doubt, the most popular in the world, which is something to be proud of.

Top Scot

I AM writing to criticise just one selection in your Scottish Premier side. No Scottish midfielder should be without the underrated Hibs dynamo Ally MacLeod.

He is undoubtedly the best player in Scotland, hard-working, unselfish and a player who can make and take goals.

I can't understand how his name-sake excluded him from the Scotland World Cup squad.

MURDO MOMSON, STORNOWAY.



● Ally (above) is one of the reasons why Hibs are riding high in the Premier Division. That's the good thing about such "dream teams" — they create interest, discussion ... and disagreement!

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PETER HOLTOM (F33)
22 TINDALL CLOSE, HAROLD WOOD, ROMFORD, ESSEX RM3 0PB.

SINCE taking over as player-manager of Swansea City last March, former Liverpool and Wales star, John Toshack, has breathed life, fire, and ambition into the club that won promotion from the Fourth Division last season.

Cardiff-born John brought all his Welsh fervour to Vetch Field, and with it, a burning desire to create a side that would spread, throughout the Valleys, some of the Liverpool magic he had savoured so often during his glory years at Anfield.

With the grasp of priorities befitting a man who had served under managers like Bill Shankly and Bob Paisley, Tosh spent the summer improving the training and social facilities for his players, and giving the ground a face-lift that seemed appropriate as he prepared to "bring a little bit of Anfield to the place".

Now, as the season gets into its stride, and they sing about Toshack and his team in the Swansea streets, and talk endlessly of the night their heroes came to London and destroyed

JOHN TOSHACK, ALAN WADDLE, TOMMY SMITH, IAN CALLAGHAN, PHIL BOERSMA —

THE LIVERPOOL MAGIC IS WORKING FOR SWANSEA

vellous response from the fans.

"I know from my own experience what an inspiration Smithy and Cally were to Liverpool, and they are having the same effect here. Tommy in particular, is a wonderful bloke to have around before a game.

"When we were at Liverpool, he used to go round the dressing-room with a word of encouragement for everyone before we were due to go out, and he always made a point of putting any youngster coming into the side, at his ease. A lot of us who made it at Anfield are grateful for Smithy's own brand of 'geeing-up'!"

"He's doing the same thing with the lads here, both in the dressing-room and out on the park. And Cally?"

"Well, what can you say about this superb professional who played his first League game for Liverpool, 18 years ago, that hasn't already been said?"

"Like Tommy, he's won practically every honour in the game, but here he is, playing in the Third Division, and the only difference between Ian Callaghan of Liver-

pool, and Ian Callaghan of Swansea City, is the colour of the strip! His game is still the same — all skill, and heart, and decency.

"The excellent young players in this Swansea team will pick up more soccer know-how just being out there with Ian and Tommy than they'd ever get from the fancy jargon of the coaching manuals.

"At Liverpool, Shanks and Bob Paisley kept drumming it into us football is a simple game if you have the right players, and both of them always made sure they had the right players. This is something that has rubbed off on me. This is what I'm trying to do at Swansea.

"The results so far have been very encouraging. I believe if we go out to win the ball, play good football, and score goals, while stopping our opponents from sticking the ball in our net, we can maintain our impressive form.

"Basically, this is what the game is about, but, with two teams on the park, it's easier to talk about it, than actually do it — if you haven't got players who can make it happen. I believe my lads have the ability, the confidence, and the character to keep it simple, and successful."

With four defeats in their last six games, including a League Cup K.O. by Q.P.R., it looks as if the Swans are gliding into choppy waters, but John Toshack and his Anfield "exiles" are gifted navigators, and that makes it a pretty safe bet the Swansea punters will enjoy much more than a sprinkling of that old Liverpool magic by the time the winning-post comes into view.



LEFT . . . Phil Boersma. ABOVE . . . Alan Waddle. RIGHT . . . Ian Callaghan.



First Division Spurs in the League Cup, the Liverpool link has become even stronger as that flawless professional, Ian Callaghan, after a magnificent Anfield career that spanned over 800 first team games, followed his old teammate, Tommy Smith, to the bubbling enthusiasm and expectancy of Vetch Field.

Also, Alan Waddle (from Leicester) and Phil Boersma (from Luton), ex-Anfield team-mates, have recently joined the club.

"Tommy and Ian are particularly important signings," said The Swans' 29-year-old boss, "and the very fact both those great players decided to come to Swansea in preference to clubs in higher Divisions, has given my lads a tremendous lift, and brought a mar-

A delighted John Toshack (right) after he had secured the services of former Anfield favourite Tommy Smith.



NOBBY



RESULTS . . . SCORERS . . . TEAM LINE-UPS

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27

Continued

CUP-WINNERS' CUP (First Round, second-leg)

ABERDEEN (0) 3 (Strachan, Jarvie, Harper)
MAREK STANKE DIMITROV (0) 0 25,000
Aberdeen: Leighton, Kennedy, McLelland, McMaster, McLeish, Miller, Sullivan (Strachan), Archibald, Harper, Jarvie, Scanlon.
Marek: Stoinov; Sevdin, Kolev, Karakolev, Palev, Rainov, Pargov (Brankov), Tomov, Petrov (I), Petrov (V), Dimitrov.

BALLYMENA (0) 0
BEVEREN (0) 3 (Janssens 2, Wissmann) 4,000
Ballymena: Brown; Donald, Butcher, McCullough, Jackson, Shaw (Spence), McQuiston, McAvoy, Mullan, Simpson, McClean.
Beveren: Pfaff; Jaspers, Van Genechten, Buyl, Baecke, Hofkens, Schoenberger, Albert (Truyens), Stevens (Wissman), Cluytens, Janssens.

IPSWICH (1) 2 (Mariner, Wark pen.)
AZ67 (0) 0 23,814
Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Tibbott, Talbot, Osman, Beattie, Mills, Wark, Mariner, Whymark, Woods.
AZ67: Vooyo; Van Rijnsvoever, Spelbos, Metgod, Hovenkamp, Peters, Ressel, Van Hanegem, Kist, Arntz, De Graaf (Nygaard).

WREXHAM (0) 2 (McNeil, Cartwright)
RIJEKA (0) 0 10,469
Wrexham: Davies; Hill, Whittle, Davis, Cegielski, Thomas, Shinton, Sutton, McNeil, Williams, Cartwright.
Rijeka: Avramovic; Makin, Hristic, Cukrov, Radin, Juricic, Durkalic, Desnica, Fegic, Tomic, Ruzic.

U.E.F.A. CUP (First Round, second-leg)

DUNDEE UTD 0
STANDARD LIEGE 0 9,150
Dundee U: McAlpine; Stewart, Kopel, Holt, Hegarty, Narey, Smith, Addison (Fleming), Payne, Sturrock, Dodds.
Standard: Preud'homme; Gerets, Renquin, Garot, Poel, Labarbe, Denier, Graf, Wellens, Sigurvinsson, De Matos.

LOKOMOTIV LEIPZIG (0) 1 (Stapleton o.g.)
ARSENAL (1) 4 (Brady, Stapleton 2, Sunderland) 22,000
Leipzig: Stotzner; Hammer, Grobner, Fritsche, Moldt, Kinne, Kuhn, Dennstedt, Baum (Altmann), Eichhorn, Liebers.
Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Nelson, Price (Vaessen), O'Leary, Young (Walford), Brady, Sunderland, Stapleton, Devine, Rix.

MAN. CITY (1) 3 (Wildschut o.g., Kidd, Bell)
TWENTE (0) 2 (Overweg, Gritter) 29,330
Man. C: Corrigan; Clements, Power, Viljoen (Bell), Watson, Fletcher (P), Channon, Owen, Kidd, Hartford, Barnes.
Twente: Pasveer; Van Ierssel, Overweg, Drost, Wildschut, Thijssen, Van der Vall, Pahlplatz, Gritter, Bos (Bruggink), Thoresen.

NORRKOPING 0
HIBS 0 1,300
NorraKoping: Johnson; Eek, Andersson, Fredriksson, Bernsten, Eriksson, Lundqvist, Liljedahl, Ohlsson, Svensson, Larsson.
Hibs: McDonald; Duncan, Smith, Rae, Fleming, McNamara, McLeod, Higgins, Stewart, Hutchinson, Bremner.

W.B.A. (2) 3 (Robson, Cunningham pen., Treweek)
GALATASARAY (1) 1 (Turgay) 22,380
W.B.A.: Godden (Grew); Batson, Statham, Treweek (Brown, T.), Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Cantello, Cunningham.
Galatasaray: Bahatin, Mufit, Erdogan, Gungor, Tuncay, Fatih, Oner, Gurcan, Cuneit, Tacettin, Turgay.

SECOND DIVISION

STOKE (1) 2 (Crooks, O'Callaghan)
BRIGHTON (0) 2 (Ward, Maybank) 22,203

Stoke: Jones; Marsh, Scott, Kendall, Smith, Doyle, Dodd, Irvine, O'Callaghan, Crooks, Richardson (Busby).
Brighton: Steele; Tiler, Williams, Horton, Rollings, Lawrenson, Ryan, Ward, Maybank, Clark (Sayer), O'Sullivan.

THIRD DIVISION

CHESTER (1) 2 (Delgado, Oakes) 3,311
SWINDON (0) 0
Chester: Lloyd; Raynor, Walker, Storton, Jeffries, Oakes, Delgado, Livermore, Edwards, Mellor, Phillips.
Swindon: Ogden; Trollope, Ford, McHale, Aizlewood, Stroud, Miller, Carter, Rowland, Bates (Kamara), Williams.

CHESTERFIELD (1) 3 (Salmons, Fern, Cammack)
SOUTHEND (2) 2 (Parker, Abbott) 4,316
Chesterfield: Letheran; Flavell, Burton, Hunter, Cottam (Cammack), Prophet, Tarrt, Kowalski, Fern, Salmons, Walker.
Southend: Cawston; Stead, Yates, Abbott (Walker), Cusack, Hadley, Morris, Pountney, Parker, Dudley, Fell.

EXETER (1) 2 (Kellow, Bowker)
COLCHESTER (1) 1 (Gough) 3,421
Exeter: O'Keefe; Tempeman, Hore, Randell, Giles, Roberts, Holman, Kellow, Bowker, Dolve, Hatch.
Colchester: Walker; Cook, Packer, Sharkey, Wignall, Dowman, Foley (Rowles), Gough, Dyer, Hodge, Allinson.

OXFORD (1) 3 (Seacole, Fogg pen., Foley)
MANSFIELD (1) 2 (Bird, Allen) 3,998
Oxford: Burton; Doyle, Fogg, Briggs, Bodell, Jeffrey, McGrogan, Taylor, Foley, Seacole, Duncan (Sweetzer).
Mansfield: Arnold; Curtis, Foster (B), Bird, Saxby (M), McClelland, Miller, Martin (Saxby, G), Goodwin, Coffey, Allen.

FOURTH DIVISION

BRADFORD C (0) 3 (Baines, Cooke, Jackson)
HALIFAX (0) 0 4,115
Bradford C: Downsborough; Podd, Watson, Bates, Baines, Middleton, Johnson, Jackson, Cooke, Szabo, Martineez.
Halifax: Leonard; Bradley, Loska, Trainer, Dunleavy, Johnson, Firth, Carroll, Bullock, Lawson, Johnston (Kennedy).

CREWE (0) 2 (Davies, Coyne)
STOCKPORT (1) 2 (Lee, Prudham) 2,777
Crewe: Caswell; Bevan, Roberts, Rimmer, Bowles, Wilshaw, Davies, Purdie, Nelson, Tully, Robertson (Coyne).
Stockport: Rogan; Thorpe, Rutter, Thompson, Park, Edwards, Henson, Armstrong, Prudham, Loadwick, Lee.

READING (1) 1 (Bowman pen.)
TORQUAY (0) 0 5,722
Reading: Death; Peters, White, Bowman, Hicks, Bennett, Earles, Hertzke, Kearney, Sanchez, Lewis.
Torquay: Turner; Twitchin, Darke, Davies, Payne, Dunne, Wilson, Lawrence, Coffill (Bicknell), Murphy, Raper.

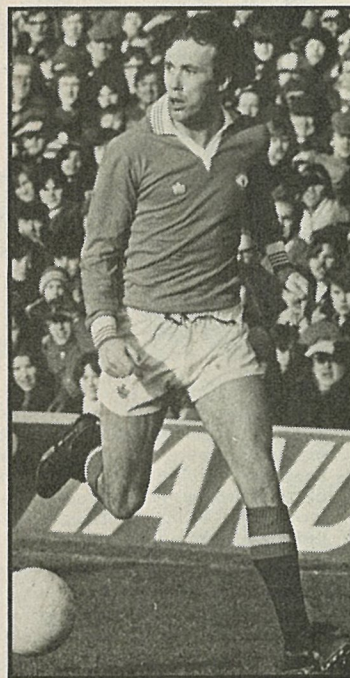
ANGLO-SCOTTISH CUP (Quarter-Final, second-leg)

CELTIC (0) 1 (Lynch pen.)
BURNLEY (2) 2 (Brennan, Kinton) 28,000
Celtic: Latchford; McGrain, Lynch, Aitken, Edvaldsson, Conroy, Provan, Conn; McAdam, Burns, Lennox.
Burnley: Stevenson; Scott, Brennan, Noble, Thomson, Rodaway, Ingham, Smith, Fletcher, Kinton, James.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29

THIRD DIVISION

LINCOLN (0) 1 (Ward)
WALSALL (1) 1 (Waddington) 3,371
Lincoln: Grotier; Guest, Leigh, McCalliog, Wigginton, Cooper, Hobson, Sunley, Cockerill, Ward, Watson.
Walsall: Kearns; Macken, Caswell, Harrison, Serella, King, Birch, Waddington, Austin, Buckley, McDonough.



Sammy McIlroy starred for Manchester United in their 1-0 local derby win v. Manchester City.

SOUTHEND (0) 0
SHREWSBURY (0) 1 (Atkins) 6,773
Southend: Cawston; Stead, Yates, Abbott (Walker), Cusack, Hadley, Morris, Pountney, Parker, Dudley, Fell.
Shrewsbury: Mulhearn; King, Larkin, Turner, Griffin, Hayes, Chapman, Atkins, Lindsay, Biggins, Maguire.

FOURTH DIVISION

BOURNEMOUTH (1) 3 (Butler, Showers, Massey)
PORTSMOUTH (1) 1 (Viney) 10,056
Bournemouth: Allen; Cunningham, Miller, Impey, Brown (R), Barton, Borthwick (Johnson), Showers, Butler (M), Massey, Brown (K).
Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis, Viney (Wilson), Denyer, Foster, Piper, Hemmerman, Lathan, Davey, McIlwraith, Pullar.

STOCKPORT (2) 3 (Bradd 2, Lee)
HUDDERSFIELD (1) 1 (Bielby pen.) 5,554
Stockport: Rogan; Thorpe, Rutter, Thompson, Park, Edwards, Henson, Armstrong, Bradd, Loadwick, Lee.
Huddersfield: Starling; Brown, Gartland, Holmes, Harvey, Topping, Gray, Hart (Cowl- ing), Campbell, Robinson, Bielby.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30

FIRST DIVISION

ASTON VILLA (1) 1 (Craig pen.)
NOTTM FOREST (0) 2 (Woodcock, Robertson pen.) 36,735
Villa: Rimmer; Gregory, Williams, Evans (A), McNaught, Mortimer, Craig, Little, Deehan, Cowans (Jenkins), Shelton.
Forest: Shilton; Anderson, Bowyer, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, O'Neill, Gemmill, Birtles, Woodcock, Robertson.

BRISTOL C (2) 2 (Gow, Hunter)
EVERTON (1) 2 (Latchford 2) 23,231
Bristol C: Shaw; Gillies, Sweeney, Gow, Rodgers, Hunter, Tainton, Ritchie, Royle, Mann, Mabbutt.
Everton: Wood; Todd, Pejic, Lyons, Wright, Ross, King, Dobson, Latchford, Walsh, Thomas.

CHELSEA (1) 1 (Wicks)
W.B.A. (1) 3 (Regis, Wile, Brown, T.) 20,186
Chelsea: Bonetti; Locke, Stride, Stanley, Wicks, Harris, Swain, Wilkins (R), Langley, Lewington, McKenzie (Walker).
W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Cunningham, Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Cantello, Brown (T), (Treweek).

LEEDS (1) 3 (Flynn, Gray, F. pen., Hankin)
BIRMINGHAM (0) 0 23,331
Leeds: Harvey; Stevenson, Cherry, Flynn, Hart, Madeley, Harris, Hankin, Lorimer (Thomas), Gray (F), Graham.
Birmingham: Montgomery; Broadhurst, Dennis, Dillon, Gallagher, Towers, Page, Ainscow, Givens, Emmanuel, Fox.

LIVERPOOL (2) 3 (Case 3)
BOLTON (0) 0 47,099
Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Case, Highway, McDermott, Souness.
Bolton: McDonagh; Nicholson, Burke, Greaves, Walsh, Jones (P), Morgan, Whatmore, Gowling, Worthington, Smith.

MAN. UTD. (0) 1 (Jordan)
MAN. CITY (0) 0 55,317
Man. U: Roche; Albiston, Houston, Greenhoff (B), McQueen, Buchan, Coppell, Greenhoff (J), Jordan, Macari, McIlroy.
Man. C: Corrigan; Clements, Donachie, Power, Watson, Fletcher (P), Channon, Owen, Kidd, Hartford, Barnes.

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 2 (Ashcroft, Mills)
ARSENAL (1) 3 (O'Leary, Price, Walford) 14,404
Middlesbrough: Stewart; Craggs, Johnson, Mahoney, Boam, Ramage, Mills, McAndrew, Ashcroft (Hodgson), Cummins, Armstrong.
Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Nelson, Price, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Sunderland, Stapleton, Devine (Walford), Rix.

NORWICH (2) 3 (Ryan, Reeves, Robb)
DERBY (0) 0 16,585
Norwich: Keelan; Bond, Sullivan, Ryan, Hoadley, Powell, Neighbour, Reeves, Robb, Robson (Mendham), Peters.
Derby: Middleton; Langan, Buckley, Daly, McFarland, McCaffrey, Powell, Rioch, Caskey, Clarke, Nish.

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (MacDougall)
IPSWICH (2) 2 (Mariner 2) 21,264
Southampton: Gennoe; Golac, Peach, Williams, Pickering, Waldron, Ball, Boyer, MacDougall, Holmes, Curran.
Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Tibbott, Talbot, Osman, Beattie, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Mills, Woods.

TOTTENHAM (0) 1 (Hodde)
COVENTRY (0) 1 (Ferguson) 35,006
Tottenham: Daines; McAllister, Gorman, Holmes, Lacy, Perryman, Armstrong (Hodde), Ardiles, Lee, Pratt, Taylor.
Coventry: Sealey; Coop, McDonald, Yorath, Holton, Gillespie, Hunt, Wallace, Ferguson, Powell (Beck), Hutchison.

WOLVES (0) 1 (Daniel pen.)
Q.P.R. (0) 0 14,250
Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Hazell, McAlle, Patching, Carr, Rafferty (Arkwright), Eves, Daley.
Q.P.R.: Richardson; Shanks, Gillard, Hollins, Howe, Cunningham (Abbott), Eastoe, Francis, Harkouk, Bowles, McGee.

SECOND DIVISION

BLACKBURN (0) 1 (Radford)
CHARLTON (0) 2 (Robinson 2) 8,341
Blackburn: Butcher; Hird (Waddington), Bailey, Metcalfe, Keeley, Fazackerley, Brotherton, Fowler, Craig, Radford, Birchenall.
Charlton: Wood; Campbell, Madden, Tyde- man, Shipperley, Shaw, Brisley, Gritt, Flana- gan, Robinson, Peacock (Powell).

BRIGHTON (4) 5 (Baxter 2 o.g.s, Ryan, Ward, Clark)
PRESTON (0) 1 (Cochrane) 19,217
Brighton: Steele; Tiler, Williams, Horton, Rollings, Lawrenson, Ryan, Ward, Maybank, Clark, Sayer.
Preston: Tunks; Cameron (Cochrane), Wil- son, Burns, Baxter, Cross, Coleman, Hasle- grave, Robinson, Potts, Bruce.

CAMBRIDGE (0) 1 (Biley)
BRISTOL R. (0) 1 (Aitken) 5,513
Cambridge: Webster; Howard, Smith, Stringer, Fallon, Leach, Graham, Spriggs, Buckley, Finney, Biley.
Bristol R: Thomas; Pulis (Aitken), Bater, Day, Taylor, Prince, Dennehy, Williams, Randall, Staniforth, Lythgoe.

MILLWALL (0) 0
BURNLEY (1) 2 (Fletcher, Noble) 5,238
 Millwall: Cuff; Donaldson, Gregory, Tagg, Kitchener, Gale, Hamilton (B), Seaman, Pearson (Hamilton, J.), Mitchell, Walker.
 Burnley: Stevenson; Scott, Brennan, Noble, Thomson, Rodaway, Smith, Ingham, Fletcher, Kindon, James.

NOTTS CO. (0) 1 (Hooks)
NEWCASTLE (1) 2 (Bird, Connolly) 11,813
 Notts Co: McManus; Richards, O'Brien, Benjamin, Stubbs, Mann, McCulloch, Masson, Green (Hooks), Hunt, Vinter.
 Newcastle: Hardwick; Kelly, Brownlie, Suggett, Bird, Blackley, Scott, McGhee (Mitchell), Withe, Hibbitt, Connolly.

OLDHAM (0) 0
FULHAM (0) 2 (Guthrie, Davies) 6,972
 Oldham: McDonnell; Wood, Blair, Bell, Hicks, Hurst (Gardner), Valentine, Taylor, Young, Halom, Chapman.
 Fulham: Peyton; Evans, Strong, Lock, Money, Gale, Bullivant, Davies, Guthrie, Margerrison, Greenaway.

ORIENT (0) 0
LEICESTER (0) 1 (Christie) 5,430
 Orient: Jackson; Fisher, Roffey, Grealish, Gray, Went, Chiedozie, Banjo, Mayo, Kitchen, Godfrey.
 Leicester: Wallington; Whitworth, Rofe, May, Sims, Kelly, Welsh, Kember, Hughes, Christie, Weller.

SHEFF. UTD. (1) 1 (Anderson)
LUTON (0) 1 (Hutton) 15,295
 Sheff. U: Conroy; Cutbush, Calvert, Speight, Matthews, Kenworthy, Stainrod, Keeley, Franks, Anderson, Hamson.
 Luton: Aleksic; Price, Aizlewood, Hill, Turner, Donaghy, Moss, West, Stein, Hatton, Fuccillo.

STOKE (1) 1 (Irvine)
C. PALACE (0) 1 (Murphy) 19,070
 Stoke: Jones; Marsh, Scott, Kendall, Smith, Doyle, Dodd, Irvine (Johnson), O'Callaghan, Crooks, Busby.
 Palace: Burridge; Hinshelwood, Sansom, Chatterton, Cannon, Gilbert, Nicholas, Murphy, Swindlehurst, Elwiss, Hilaire.

SUNDERLAND (1) 2 (Rowell 2, 1 pen.)
WEST HAM (0) 1 (Cross) 23,676
 Sunderland: Siddall; Coady, Rostron, Docherty, Clarke, Elliott, Chisholm, Lee, Entwistle, Brown, Rowell.
 West Ham: Ferguson; McDowell, Brush, Holland, Taylor, Bonds, Curbishley, Devonshire, Cross, Brooking, Robson.

WREXHAM (0) 1 (Lyons)
CARDIFF (1) 2 (Buchanan 2, 1 pen.) 11,766
 Wrexham: Niedzwiecki; Hill, Whittle, Davis, Roberts, Thomas, Shinton (Lyons), Sutton, McNeil, Williams, Cartwright.
 Cardiff: Healey; Dwyer, Pethard, Campbell (Thomas), Pontin, Larmour, Grapes, Buchanan, Stevens, Bishop, Lewis.

THIRD DIVISION

BURY (1) 1 (Gregory)
CHESTER (1) 1 (Edwards) 4,056
 Bury: Forrest; Ritson, Kennedy, Lugg, Tucker, Hamstead, Stanton (Farrell), Wilson, Beamish, Gregory, Taylor.
 Chester: Lloyd; Nickeas, Raynor, Storton, Jeffries, Oakes, Delgado, Livermore, Edwards, Mellor, Walker.

COLCHESTER (0) 3 (Gough 2, Rowles)
BLACKPOOL (0) 1 (Hockaday) 3,007
 Colchester: Walker; Cook, Packer, Hodge, Wignall, Downman, Evans, Gough, Dyer, Rowles, Allinson.
 Blackpool: Hesford; Gardner, Pashley, McEwan, Suddaby, Thompson, Ronson, Chandler, Spence, Bissell (Sermani), Hockaday.

GILLINGHAM (2) 2 (Westwood, Richardson)
CHESTERFIELD (0) 1 (Fern, pen.) 4,602
 Gillingham: Hillyard; Sharpe, Armstrong, Overton, Weatherley, Crabbe, Nicholl, Hughes, Price, Westwood, Richardson.
 Chesterfield: Letheran; Flavell (Cammack), Burton, Hunter, Cottam, Prohett, Tarrt, Kowalski, Fern, Salmons, Walker.

HULL (0) 0
OXFORD (0) 1 (Foley) 5,263
 Hull: Wealands; Nisbet, DeVries, Croft, Horswill, Haigh, Hood, Lord, Edwards, Bannister (Warboys), Farley.
 Oxford: Burton; Doyle (White), Fogg, Briggs, Bodell, Jeffrey, McGrogan, Taylor, Foley, Seacole, Hodgson.

MANSFIELD (1) 1 (Miller)
CARLISLE (0) 0 4,716

Mansfield: Arnold; Bird, Foster (B), Saxby (G), Saxby (M), McClelland, Miller, Moss, Syrett, Martin (Phillips), Allen.
 Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, McCartney, MacDonald, Tait, Parker, McVitie, Bonnyman, Kemp, Lumby, Hamilton.

PETERBOROUGH (0) 1 (Doyle)
EXETER (1) 1 (Holman) 6,714
 Peterborough: Waugh; Carmichael, Styles, Doyle, Green, Ross, Robertson, McEwan, Butlin, Anderson (Cliss), Robson.
 Exeter: O'Keefe; Templeman, Hore, Randall, Giles, Roberts, Holman, Kellow, Bowker, Delve, Hatch.

PLYMOUTH (2) 2 (Binney 2)
ROTHERHAM (0) 0 6,705
 Plymouth: Hodge; Bason (Trusson), Rogers, Taylor, Foster, Clarke, Megson, Fear, Binney, Perrin, Johnson.
 Rotherham: McAlister; Pugh, Breckin, Finney, Green, Forrest, Dawson, Phillips, Gwyther, Crawford, Smith.

SWANSEA (1) 2 (Charles, James)
BRENTFORD (1) 1 (McCulloch) 11,470
 Swansea: Crudgington; Evans, Bartley, Smith, Bruton, Charles (Morris), Moore, James (R), Waddle, Boersma, Callaghan.
 Brentford: Porter; Salmon, Tucker, Shrubbs, Kruse, Fraser, Walker, Carlton, Eames, McCulloch, Phillips.

SWINDON (1) 3 (Bates, Rowland, Gilchrist)
SHEFF. WED (0) 0 5,857
 Swindon: Ogden; Trollope, Ford, McHale, Lewis, Stroud, Gilchrist, Carter, Rowland, Bates (Cunningham), Kamara.
 Sheff. W: Bolder; Blackhall (Owen), Grant, Rushbury, Dowd, Smith, Mullen, Porterfield, Wyld, Johnson, Hornsby.

WATFORD (1) 4 (Jenkins 2, Bolton pen., Downes)
TRANMERE (0) 0 10,753
 Watford: Rankin; Stirk, Harrison (Mayes), Booth, Bolton, Garner, Pollard, Blissett, Jenkins, Joslyn, Downes.
 Tranmere: Johnson; Mathias, Flood, Parry, Bramhall, Evans, Palios, O'Neil, Moore, Craven (Peplow), McAuley.

FOURTH DIVISION

ALDERSHOT (0) 1 (Dungworth)
DARLINGTON (1) 1 (Paterson) 2,560
 Aldershot: Johnson; Edwards (Green), Wooler, Dixon, Youlden, Jopling, Crosby, Brodie, Shanahan, Dungworth, Tomlin.
 Darlington: Burleigh; Nattress, Cochrane, Hague, Lyons, Stone, Maitland (Crosson), Patterson, Seal, Probert, Wann.
BARNLEY (0) 3 (Little, Saunders, Pugh)
READING (0) 1 (Bowman pen.) 10,058
 Barnley: Springett; Collins, Chambers, Pugh, Saunders, McCarthy, Little, Clarke, Riley (Prendergast), Peachey, Millar.
 Reading: Death; Peters, White, Bowman, Hicks, Bennett, Earles, Hetzke, Kearney, Sanchez, Lewis.

GRIMSBY (2) 4 (Brolly 2, Liddell 2)
ROCHDALE (0) 0 3,681
 Grimsby: Batch; Mawer, Moore, Waters, Barker, Crombie, Ford, Partridge (Young), Liddell, Drinkell, Brolly.
 Rochdale: Shyne; Hallows, Snookes, Hart, Scott, Scaife, O'Loughlin, Morrin, Ashworth, Esser, Hoy.



A goal from Teddy Maybank enabled Brighton to draw 2-2 with Stoke.

HALIFAX 0
CREWE 0 985
 Halifax: Leonard; Bradley, Loska, Trainer, Dunleavy, Johnson, Firth, Carroll, Mountford, Lawson, Bell.
 Crewe: Caswell; Roberts, Rimmer, Bevan, Bowles, Purdie, Davies, Nelson, Wilshaw, Tully, Robertson.

HEREFORD (1) 1 (Holmes K.)
PORT VALE (0) 0 3,963
 Hereford: Hughes; Roberts, Burrows, Marshall, Layton, Emery, Stephens, Holmes (K), Jones (Holmes W.), Spiring, Gould.
 Port Vale: Connaughton; Keenan, Bentley, Ridley, Sproson, Hawkins, Sutcliffe, Bromage (Sinclair), Wright, Todd, Chamberlain.

NEWPORT (1) 1 (Sinclair)
YORK (1) 1 (Loggie) 3,021
 Newport: Plumley; Walden, Warriner (Williams), Thompson; Oakes, Lowndes, Davies, Woods, Goddard, Sinclair, Woods, Bailey.
 York: Neenan; Walsh, Kay, Collier, Faulkner, Clements, Young, Randall, Loggie, McDonald, Stanforth (Stronach).

NORTHAMPTON (1) 3 (Mead, Robertson, Christie)
DONCASTER (0) 0 3,011
 Northampton: Poole; Geidmintis, Mead, Woollett, Robertson, Bryant, Farrington (Cordice), Williams, Reilly, Froggatt, Christie.
 Doncaster: Peacock; Reed, Robinson, Lally, Bradley, Bentley, Meagan, Habbins, Packer, Snodin (Lewis), Laidlaw.

TORQUAY (2) 4 (Cooper 2, Murphy 2, 1 pen.)
HARTLEPOOL (0) 1 (Houchan) 3,033
 Torquay: Turner; Twichin, Darke, Davies (Bicknell), Payne, Dunne, Wilson, Lawrence, Cooper, Murphy, Raper.
 Hartlepool: Platt; Smith (G), Gorry, Hogan (Guy), Brooks, Ayre, Linacre, Goldthorpe, Newton, Houchan, Lawrence.

WIGAN (0) 1 (Brownbill)
SCUNTHORPE (0) 0 4,459
 Wigan: Brown; Smart, Hinnigan, God, Ward, Davids, Corrigan, Wright, Brownbill, Moore, Purdie.
 Scunthorpe: Crawford; O'Donnell, Peacock (Gibson), Oates, Deere, Czuczman, Grimes, Kilmore, Wigg, Kavanagh, Pilling.

WIMBLEDON (0) 2 (Denny, Parsons)
BRADFORD C (1) 1 (Baines) 2,819
 Wimbledon: Goddard; Bryant, Eames, Donaldson, Galvin, Galliers, Leslie (Ketteridge), Denny, Knowles, Cork, Parsons.
 Bradford C: Downsborough; Podd, Watson, Bates, Baines, Middleton, Johnson, Jackson (McNiven); Cooke, Szabo, Martinez.

SCOTTISH PREMIER

ABERDEEN (0) 1 (Archibald)
PARTICK (1) 1 (Somner pen.) 11,100
 Aberdeen: Leighton; Kennedy, McLelland, McMaster, McLeish, Miller, Strachan, Archibald, Harper, Jarvie, Scanlon (Fleming).
 Partick: Rough; McKinnon, Whittaker, Campbell, Marr, Gibson, Houston, Park, O'Hara, Somner, Melrose (McAdam), Love.

CELTIC (1) 2 (Lynch pen., Conn)
ST. MIRREN (0) 1 (Hislop) 26,000
 Celtic: Latchford; Filippi, Lynch, Aitken, Edvaldsson, Galvin, Provan, Conroy, McAdam, Burns, Conn.
 St. Mirren: Thomson; Beckett, Munro, Fitzpatrick, Dunlop, Copland, Hyslop, Stark, Bone, Abercrombie (Richardson), McGarvey.

DUNDEE UTD (3) 3 (Kirkwood 2, Kopel)
HEARTS (0) 1 (Bannon) 6,312
 Dundee U: McAlpine; Stewart, Kopel, Robinson, Hegarty, Narey, Smith (Sturrock), Fleming, Payne (Dodds), Holt, Kirkwood.
 Hearts: Dunlop; Kidd, Fraser, Jeffries (Tierney), Liddell, Craig, Robertson, Bannon, Gibson, Busby (Brown), McQuade.

HIBS (0) 1 (McLeod)
MORTON (1) 1 (Scott) 8,000
 Hibs: McDonald; Duncan, Smith, Rae, Fleming (Stewart), McNamara, O'Brien, McLeod, Hutchinson, Callaghan (Temperley), Higgins.
 Morton: Connaghan; Miller, Holmes, McLaren, Orr, Rooney, Russell, McNeill, Thomson, Scott, Ritchie.

RANGERS (3) 4 (McLean, Smith 2, Johnstone)
MOTHERWELL (1) 1 (Clinging) 25,000
 Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Forsyth (A), Forsyth (T), Jackson (Miller), MacDonald, McLean (Cooper), Russell, Parlange, Johnstone, Smith.
 Motherwell: Latchford; Shanks, Wark (MacKin) (Capaldi), McLaren, McVie, Stevens, Marinello, Pettigrew, Larnach, Clinging, Wilson.

MONDAY, OCT. 2

LEAGUE CUP (Second Round, second-replay)

W.B.A. (0) 0
LEEDS (1) 1 (Hart) 8,164 at Maine Road
 W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Cunningham, Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Cantello, Brown (T).
 Leeds: Harvey; Stevenson, Cherry, Flynn, Hart, Madeley, Thomas (Lorimer), Hankin, Gray (E), Gray (F), Graham.

TUESDAY, OCT. 3

LEAGUE CUP (Third Round)

BURNLEY (0) 1 (Brennan)
BRIGHTON (1) 3 (Maybank, Ward 2) 9,056
 Burnley: Stevenson; Scott, Brennan, Noble, Thomson, Rodaway, Cochrane, Ingham, Fletcher, Kindon, James.
 Brighton: Steele; Cattlin, Williams, Horton, Rollings, Lawrence, Sayer, Ward, Maybank, Clark, O'Sullivan.

EVERTON (0) 1 (Dobson)
DARLINGTON (0) 0 23,682
 Everton: Wood; Todd, Pejic, Lyons, Wright, Ross, King, Dobson, Latchford, Walsh, Nulty.
 Darlington: Burleigh; Nattress, Cochrane, Hague, Craig, Stone, Maitland, Lyons, Seal, Probert, Wann.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.
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Colour:
 Liam Brady (Arsenal), Southampton team group, Malcolm Page, Trevor Francis, Tom Forsyth and Martin O'Neill in our booklet pages and Focus on Tony Currie (Leeds United).

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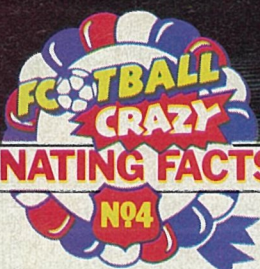
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Manchester City's Peter Barnes (left) beats Tony Powell of Norwich.



SHOOT!

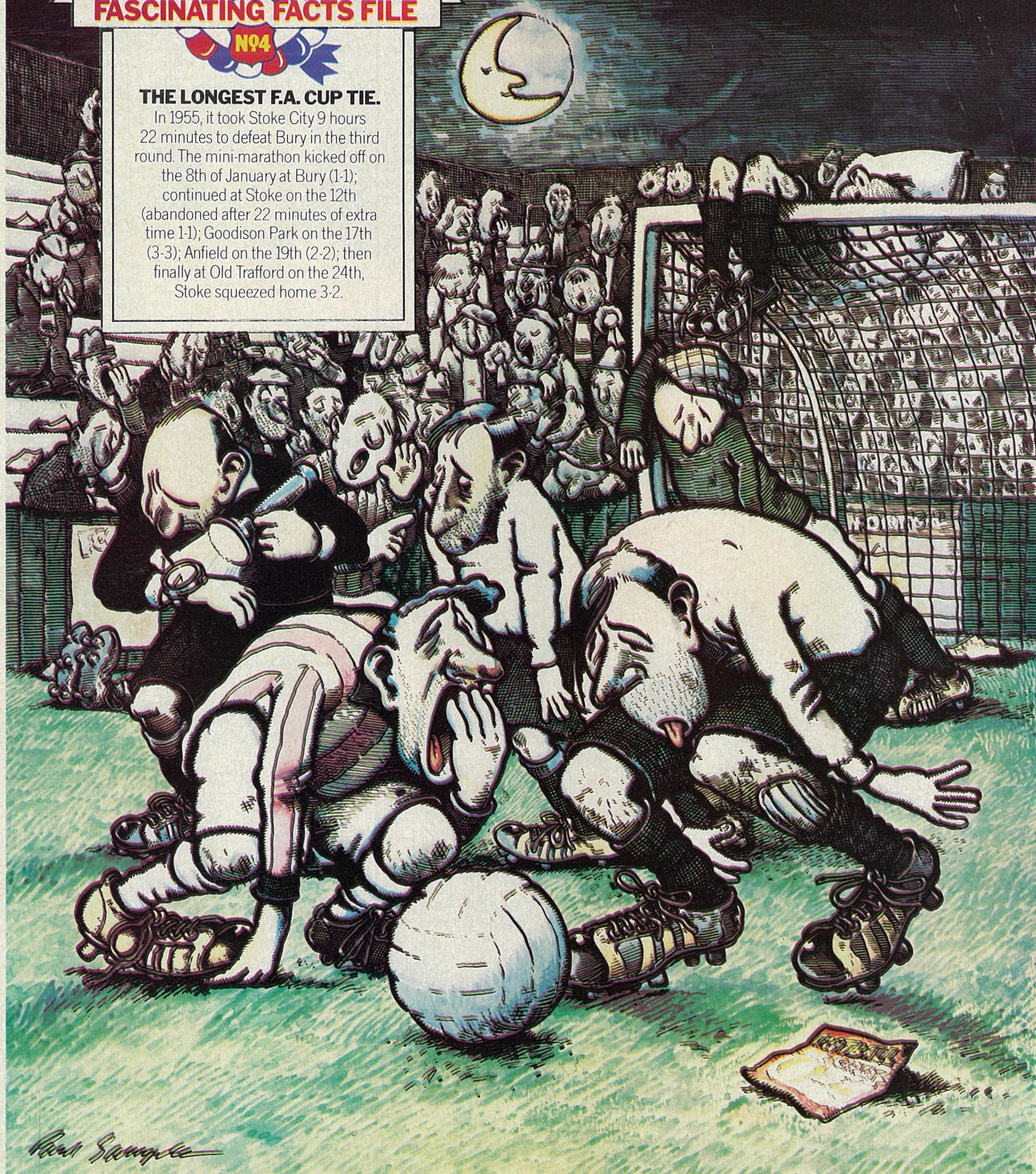


FASCINATING FACTS FILE

Nº4

THE LONGEST F.A. CUP TIE.

In 1955, it took Stoke City 9 hours 22 minutes to defeat Bury in the third round. The mini-marathon kicked off on the 8th of January at Bury (1-1); continued at Stoke on the 12th (abandoned after 22 minutes of extra time 1-1); Goodison Park on the 17th (3-3); Anfield on the 19th (2-2); then finally at Old Trafford on the 24th, Stoke squeezed home 3-2.



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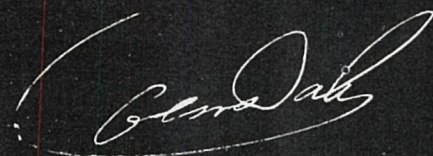
SMITHS FOOTBALL CRAZY.

FOCUS ON

GERRY DALY

DERBY COUNTY

FULL NAME: Gerard Anthony Daly
BIRTHPLACE: Dublin
BIRTHDATE: 30th April, 1954
HEIGHT: 5ft. 10ins.
WEIGHT: 11st. 2lbs.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Bohemians and Manchester United
MARRIED: Yes, to Sheila
CHILDREN: No
CAR: Saab
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Colin Todd
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Manchester United
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Colin Todd
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Manchester United v. Liverpool, 1976-77 F.A. Cup Final
BIGGEST THRILL: Winning the above Final
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing with United in the 1975-76 F.A. Cup Final to Southampton
BEST COUNTRIES VISITED: Switzerland and Brazil
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak, scampi and curry
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Playing football and winning
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Travelling to away games
FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: The Two Ronnies and late night movies
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Bee Gees and Neil Diamond
FAVOURITE ACTORS: Lee Marvin and Peter Sellers
BEST FRIEND: I have many close friends
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My brother, Patrick — and Kevin Healy, a very good friend back home in Ireland
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Bad refereeing
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: 15 full caps for Eire
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happy and successful
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To keep playing for Eire
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? I don't really know
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Actor Lee Marvin



SHOOT!



YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

1

A winger takes a corner and kicks it directly into the opponents' goal. Should you allow the goal?



2

To save time a 'keeper comes out of his goal to take a throw-in. Should you (a) caution him or (b) continue with play?



3

A penalty is given and the captain replaces the 'keeper with his centre-forward. Should you agree to this?



4

In a Football League match, the linesman runs inside the touch-line. The ball hits him and goes straight to a forward, who scores. Is this a goal?



5

When the teams are walking on to the field a player uses foul and abusive language at you. What can you do?



ANSWERS

1. Yes. 2. Any player can take a throw in (b). When I refereed Chelsea and Manchester City recently, Bonetti continually came out of his goal-area as Chelsea were losing and he wanted to get on with the game. 3. Yes, a player can change with the 'keeper at any time. 4. No, you should stop play immediately. The ball is touched by the linesman and should be restarted by dropping the ball. 5. The referee's authority commences as you enter the field of play, in this case a red card to the player and send him back to the dressing-room.

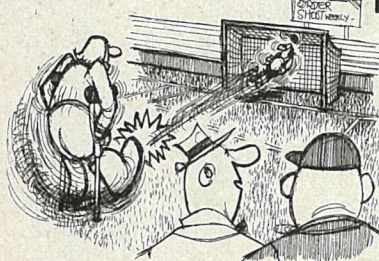
FOOTBALL FUNNIES



"No, Bert, he isn't a key player"

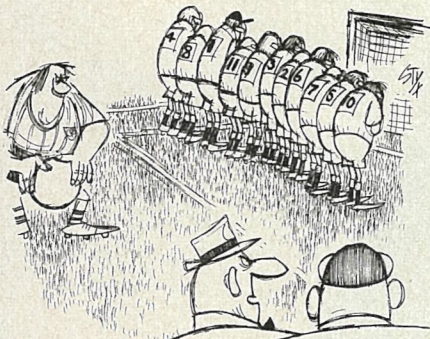
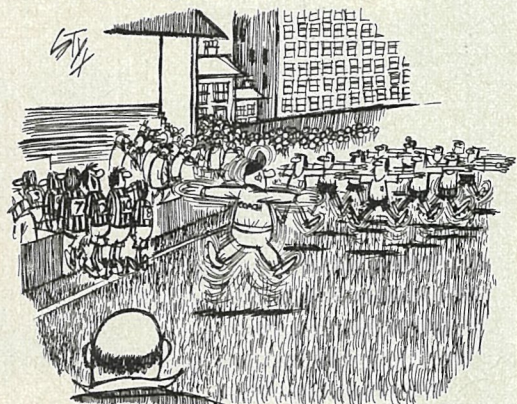


This week Carlisle striker David Kemp selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist STYX.



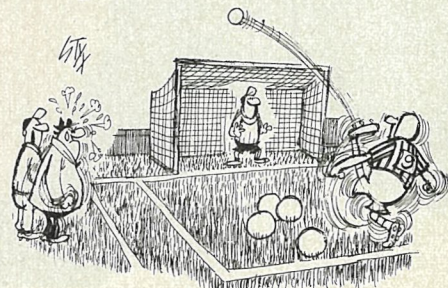
"When his leg completely mends — I hope he'll continue to wear that plaster"

"Look at that for professionalism, mate — they beat us eight-nil — then start training for their next match"



"Let's face it — they're chicken"

"But, what do you expect for £200, boss, Franz Beckenbauer?"



THE 'HAT-TRICK' POP'S AIMING FOR WITH WEST HAM

WEST HAM striker Bryan "Pop" Robson has two very special personal reasons for hoping The Hammers make an instant return to the First Division this term.

If the popular Cockneys achieve promotion at their first attempt it could mean a hat-trick of Second Division Championship medals for Bryan.

You can also back your season



ticket — there's still a waiting list of over 2,000 at Upton Park — to a pint or two in the Boleyn, that he will join a small band of current players to top 200 League goals.

"I've already won Second Division title honours with Newcastle and Sunderland. It would be nice to achieve the hat-trick with West Ham," says the likeable Geordie, now in his 16th Football League season.

"I'm also aiming to hit the 200 League goals target. At the moment I only need another half-a-dozen or so and I'll be disappointed if I don't end up with at least 20 this term."

The transfer of Derek Hales back to Charlton obviously helped Pop retain his goalscoring flair, as he proved in a devastating spell at the beginning of the month during which time he hit eight in five games, including a hat-trick — his first for six seasons — against Millwall at Upton Park.

Their styles were similar and often Bryan had to operate deeper, allowing Hales the freedom of the box. Now he's back up-front where he's most effective, playing alongside David Cross, a £175,000 buy from West Brom last season.

"Crossie is a tremendous target man," says Bryan, "and I'm benefitting from his hard work."

"He hardly misses a ball in the air and has proved how lethal he'll be this season with a hat-trick in our opening game against Notts

County and a goal at Newcastle a few days later."

West Ham beat Pop's old club and fellow relegation-sufferers at St. James' Park 3-0. He even notched one himself. But despite the result, Bryan still reckons Newcastle could be a force this term.

"Manager Bill McGarry has made quite a few changes up there. When the team gets together a bit more I feel they will be a threat, along with Stoke, Crystal Palace and Brighton."

What is the most vital quality needed for a team to win promotion from the Second Division?

"It's essential to get off to a good start, especially at home," says Robson.

"A few good results behind us at Upton Park is bound to have a psychological effect on the teams who have to visit us later in the season."

"I went up with Sunderland three years ago basically because their record at Roker Park was so good."

"We weren't so impressive away but with our home points total it didn't matter."

Has Bryan found the Second Division more physical than before?

"I thought it might be, but I haven't found it so. The main difference between the two Divisions is down here teams tend to pack the middle to shut the game down."

"Clubs also use the long ball more in the Second, bypassing the midfield."

Same pattern

"West Ham have the skill to break down any barrier. Apart from one or two minor tactical changes we are operating basically the same pattern as before."

Certainly there are few players with Trevor Brooking's vision and ability in the Second. His decision to stay at West Ham must have been a great boost to the club's promotion hopes?

"Of course it was," says Robson. "During the close-season I had thoughts of getting away."

"Norwich, Blackburn Rovers and Sunderland came in for me, but Trevor's decision to sign a new contract influenced me and others to stay with The Hammers."

"We were also delighted Frank Lampard didn't go to Norwich. How do you replace a defender with his experience and strength?"

Will West Ham and Bryan Robson achieve their aims?

"This is a tough Division to get out of. But things are going quite well at the moment. The team is organised and team spirit, something that has been lacking in the past, is first class."

"Talk to me again in December and I'll be in more of a position to give you a definite answer."

SHOOT will be back, Bryan — so will West Ham!

Ally Brown's GOAL-TEST

WEST Brom manager Ron Atkinson has set striker Ally Brown a 20-goal target this season — and promised him a bottle of champagne if he hits the bulls-eye.

Brown, the 27-year-old Scot who has almost always lived in The Hawthorns shadows since his £60,000 move from Leicester in March, 1972, was quick to admit: "I'd have settled for 20 games before the start of the season — let alone goals!"

But he kicked-off with three goals in as many games and that should do his confidence the power of good especially as Atkinson has given him the chance to prove he has a bright First Division future.

Just 12 months ago, an unsettled Brown had turned down a £30,000 move to Bury because he didn't fancy a drop into the Third Division. His days at West Brom looked numbered after a row with manager Ronnie Allen.

He explained: "I fell out with the boss and at one time it looked as though I was about fourth choice behind David Cross, Laurie Cunningham and then Cyrille Regis."

"Other clubs were inquiring about me but then I suddenly found myself back in the side. Ronnie Allen quit to go to Saudi Arabia at Christmas and the situation changed again."

"David Cross had been transferred to West Ham and when the new manager Ron Atkinson arrived at the end of January I found myself very much in the picture from the start. That's how it's been — and how I've got to keep it."

"It's always been a question of self-confidence as far as I'm con-

cerned. I've never really had a long run at the first team job despite a good start when I moved from Leicester."

"I've been regarded as a squad player. But now the new manager has given me the opportunity to prove I can do it."

"If I don't this time then — barring accidents — it will be my own fault. I'm certainly feeling happier with my game, and the sight of a player like Willie Johnston on the sub's bench was enough to keep anyone on their toes."

Atkinson has a lot of respect for Brown and says: "He's a players' player. He may not be a crowd-pleaser like some of the other First Division stars but the rest of the lads appreciate him."

"He may not get noticed all that much at times by the fans but believe me he gets through an awful amount of graft."

"I've set Ally this goal target because I really believe he can do it. He can team up well with Regis. They are both strong and take some knocking off the ball when they've got the goal in their sights."

"I'll be happy to reward him with champagne if he does the trick."

Edinburgh-born Brown could be on the brink of a major breakthrough with honours after over 250 League games in which he's figured in promotion from the Second Division twice — with both Leicester and West Brom.

He added: "Nothing much has come my way in terms of honours. As a matter of fact I've got one Scottish Under-23 cap but even that never seems to rate a mention."

"Still, it's nice to be involved at last especially as West Brom seem set for big things. I'm determined to grab my chance."



Ally Brown beats Chelsea's Ron Harris to the ball.

Hoeness Transfer To HSV Called Off

THE transfer of Bayern Munich midfielder Uli Hoeness (on the ball) to Hamburger SV has fallen through on medical grounds.

The 26-year-old midfielder had agreed terms with HSV manager Günter Netzer. Hoeness, who has won 35 caps for West Germany, was to be paid on a match-by-match basis and his fee would have been around £1,800 per game.

The problem is Hoeness has had four knee operations in recent years, which has resulted in a loss of form and, obviously, fewer



appearances for Bayern and his country.

HSV's doctor, Dr. Mann, wanted to perform a diagnostic operation on Hoeness to see exactly what the trouble is. It is thought Uli has an arthritic condition in a knee.

Hoeness refused to go ahead

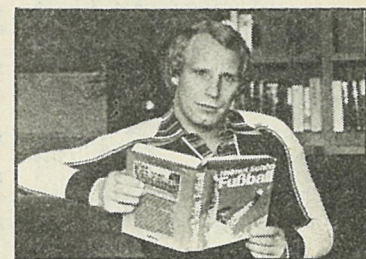
WORLDWIDE

COMPILED BY CHRIS DAVIES

I'M not sure whether this is a joke or not, but I've had news from Argentina that an organisation calling itself "The Circle of Friends of Mario Kempes" has offered Valencia £1,960,000 if the club will agree to the World Cup star's transfer!

IN Spain, there was a near-riot in Santander after the referee awarded two penalties to the visitors in Racing's 2-2 draw with Burgos. At the end of the match fans attacked the referee and linesman, and the Racing president was so disgusted by the spectacle he resigned on the spot. Meanwhile, another referee was hit by a bottle during Getafe's 0-3 home defeat by Malaga.

BORUSSIA Mönchengladbach defender Berti Vogts, recovering from a broken leg, keeps in touch with the game by reading Helmut Schoen's book "Football".



NEWS FLASHES

The record of Holland's most-capped player, pre-War star Puck Van Heel, is now in danger. Ruud Krol earned his 60th cap against Iceland while Wim Jansen got his 58th. Cruyff could have wrecked Van Heel's tally but for the fact that Barcelona would rarely release him for friendlies.

Twelve of the 16 Italian First Division clubs want to change their F.A. Cup system because playing home and away in groups of four, pre-season, against Division Two clubs does not attract good crowds.

Former West German international Wolfgang Overath retired from 1.FC Cologne last season, but still plays for a local side. Also, Overath writes a weekly column for a newspaper. This brings him in £750 in all each week.

A New York television station has voted Holland's World Cup manager Ernst Happel Soccer Man of the Year. The competition was sponsored by a company who manufacture razor blades, but they obviously didn't realise Happel hates shaving and hardly ever shaves before a game or a Press conference!

Feyenoord are giving a month's trial to Elson Seale, a young striker who comes from Barbados and he had his first outing in a friendly against 1.FC Kaiserslautern (Feyenoord lost 2-1).

"ONLY" £28,000 A YEAR!

BARCELONA'S 26-year-old Argentinian striker, Juan Carlos Heredia recently hit the headlines in Spain when he threatened to return to Argentina unless the club offered him better terms. The club is wary about over-paying the injury-prone striker (he's only been fit for 25 games in the last two seasons) and offered him a basic £28,000 a year plus bonuses totalling £14,000 if he played in more than 20 games.

Heredia insisted on a "flat" £56,000 and even got as far as going to the ground to say goodbye to his team-mates before he had a rapid change of heart and accepted the club's "money-for-matches" scheme.

RIK'S PREDICTION CAME TRUE

RIK Coppens, manager of Belgian club Beerschot, has been suspended from all official activities until the end of the season after a stormy game against Anderlecht.

It is almost accepted in some parts of Belgium, mainly the Flemish-speaking areas, the French-speaking Anderlecht club will get preferential treatment from referees.

Before Beerschot's match, Coppens predicted the Anderlecht defenders would intimidate his own side's for-

wards . . . and get away with it.

After seven minutes, six Beerschot men had hit the deck and Coppens stood up from the trainer's bench and showed a six-finger hand-sign to F.A. officials in the directors' box. He then asked a linesman to show the referee a yellow card!

Coppens was also fined £1,500, but said: "It's not the first time I've been fined . . . I'm used to it now. For me, it's proof all is not well at the Belgian F.A."

What amazed many critics was while Coppens was suspended and fined for his actions, Robert Wasseige, manager of Standard Liege, attacked a ref after a game . . . and was merely cautioned.



WHEN Hans Krankl joined Barcelona after the World Cup, Graham Turner, our correspondent in Spain, went along to the Nou Camp to interview him. To his surprise — and delight! — the Austrian striker actually had an older copy of SHOOT with him which included his Focus. Here's Hans with that particular issue.



ZAMORA DEAD

RICARDO Zamora, 79-years-old, has died in Barcelona. Rated the best goalkeeper in the world in the 1920's and early 30's, he played for Real Madrid and FC Barcelona. He helped Spain win the silver medal in the 1920 Olympics and in May, 1929, played a big part in Spain beating the full England side 4-3 in Madrid, the first-ever defeat for England against a non-British country.

Zamora's fame spread across Europe, so much so many young goalkeepers were nicknamed "Zamora" when they made spectacular saves.

LEAO MAKES A PROMISE

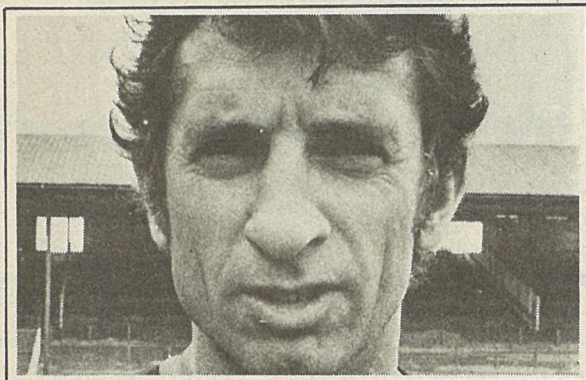
BRAZILIAN goalkeeper Leão (right) was transferred from Palmeiras to Vasco and at first met with some opposition from his new club supporters, players and even coach, Orlando Fantoni.

He had asked the directors for an outside-left and was not very happy when confronted with a goalkeeper! In the past, the same coach had asked for a midfield player and got a centre-

back instead!

But, upon arrival in Rio, Leão turned diplomatic and made several remarks aimed at clearing the air and even promised not to argue too much with his backs, which is going to be quite a change from someone like him, noted for his hot temper and an only too ready willingness to blame goals on his fellow defenders instead of himself!

SHEFFIELD UNITED'S ARGENTINA CONNECTION



'THE RAT' RETURNS

JULY 23rd, 1966. Wembley Stadium. Antonio Ubaldo "The Rat" Rattin walks disconsolately off the pitch and sits on the red carpet leading up to the Royal Box. He's just been sent-off by German referee Herr Kreitlein for persistent dissent, and ten-man Argentina go on to lose by a single goal from Geoff Hurst. After the match Sir Alf Ramsey in an uncharacteristic flash of indiscretion, called Rattin and his team-mates "animals".

Twelve years later, Rattin is back. Then he was the villain; now he's the hero. Then he was "The Rat"; now he's "Tony" . . .

"I must be the only player in the world to have become so famous by being sent-off," agrees the Argentinian, "but things were never that bad you know. After that match we stayed in London for another five or six days, and people kept coming up to me in the street, shaking my hand and saying they regretted what had happened."

Rattin's re-emergence as the new, friendly Tony Rattin stems from his recent role as vital link in the sudden rush of Argentinian players into the English League.

'Lightning'

"It all started when I had a letter from Sheffield United in June," he explains. "I think Harry Haslam's assistants Oscar Arce and Danny Bergara put them on to me. Anyway, they phoned me a few times at home, and during the World Cup I made a 'lightning' trip to England to talk things over."

"I got back to Buenos Aires just in time to see the World Cup Final. As you know, United had told me they wanted a skilful midfielder, so I put out feelers for Alonso and Valencia, but their prices rocketed after the World Cup win."

"Then I approached my old club Boca Juniors for Mario Zanabria, but in the meantime the chance to sign Sabella came up. Mr. Haslam liked him, and the rest you know."

Rumour has it a fair percentage of the £160,000 United paid for Sabella ended up as commission for Antonio Rattin, but he sidesteps the allegation neatly: "Sheffield United are paying me an annual retainer to be their representative."

Oddly, Rattin has become more of a villain in Argentina since his deal-

ings with England, as some fans feel he's aiding and abetting the harmful exodus of Argentina's top players.

"No, that's not true. Every day directors of Argentinian clubs phone me asking me to arrange transfers to England for some player of theirs. Anyway, there's always been an emigration problem in Argentinian football."

"The thing is we keep producing great players, so the absences aren't noticed so much. For example, Sabella could never get a look in at River Plate because there were always Alonso and Marchetti ahead of him in the queue for the No. 10 shirt. But at Sheffield he walked straight into the first team. When Argentina stops producing great players, that'll be the time to start worrying."

Before his sudden re-emergence on the international scene, the last news we had had about Antonio Rattin was he was beginning a promising career as a manager.

"No, I gave that up at the beginning of the year, and since then I haven't received any interesting offers — only from teams threatened with relegation, and that can be terrible."

"Football out there is in a sorry state, and why I'm considering coming to work in England. Oscar Arce keeps telling me to go ahead and take the plunge. He says if all else fails they'll give me a good price for my memoirs!"

Assuming Rattin doesn't take the plunge across the Atlantic, we wondered what further work he's got in mind to justify his retainer from Sheffield United.

"Well, the new regulations obviously make it difficult to sign a lot of foreign players, but the club has asked me to find two promising youngsters with outstanding ball skills, aged between 16 and 18. The idea is to put them into the youth team, and I think there's some regulation that says after two years they'll automatically be able to play in the first team."

"The problem is it's difficult to find them at the right price. I mean, the obvious choice was the Argentinos Juniors' midfielder Diego Maradona, but because he was in Menotti's World Cup squad they're asking £500,000 for him! I'll find someone — there's no hurry. I'm also keeping an eye open for another first teamer at the right price because they want someone to keep 'Alex' Sabella company . . ."

Sabella adds Sparkle

SHOOT continually strives to give a balanced view of football around the world and, from time to time, this policy results in unintentionally antagonising respected officials and players.

Sheffield United have been most unhappy about our remarks concerning the credentials of their Argentinian midfielder Alejandro (Alex) Sabella. To balance the situation, we asked Les Comer, our man on the spot — a Londoner who moved to Sheffield a couple of years ago and covers all the Bramall Lane games — to tell us of the impact Sabella has made on the club.

"My typewriter has been poised to write about Alex Sabella since his English debut against Orient, on the 19th August. Normally the article would have appeared after I had had the chance of assessing him in action with all the other newcomers, representing half-a-million pounds worth of talent, with which manager Harry Haslam plans to transform the club's image in the League."

"In keeping with most people I place little reliance on average ratings. The money paid and the number of past appearances of any player — whether from the Argentine or elsewhere in the world — means little to supporters compared with their instant judgment when a newcomer has the ball at his feet."

Different

"In Sabella's case, his skill has brought oxygen to English football which has been gasping for a fresh approach. Keeping things in perspective, he is only 23-years of age and in a different country that has a different method of playing, and we have only peeped at some of his football repertoire."

"He is happiest," said manager Harry Haslam, "when the praise is spread around. He just wants to be part of the team."

Assistant-manager Danny Bergara, with the same sort of singing South American Spanish accent as Sabella, obviously wants to shelter the Argentinian from too much pressure. "He is a great lad . . . modest, perhaps a little bit shy. He is concerned with what the other players might think although the reaction from everybody has been good since his arrival. He has only been married to Viviana for a year and wants to settle down here and do his best for United."

Bergara's protectiveness is understandable. Such headlines as "Sabella is better than Best at his best" after a few Second Division matches were ridiculous and encouraged reporters to arrive hostile to take their first look at the Argentinian.

Afterwards they praised his talent and the constant support he offers that has not always been accepted. The team work will improve when his stamina for the game makes its mark on the others around him — that is once the initial crop of injuries allows them to get a settled side.



There have been many benefits to the club apart from the acquisition of a class player. The older supporters talk worshipfully of the skills of the great Jimmy Hagan and when Tony Currie's name is mentioned it is as if the club has merely loaned him to Leeds.

Alan Woodward of course rates with the best and, when word spread about Sabella's "sparkle", the confidence lifted in the City — which after all is the fourth City in the country — and the turnstiles played a happier tune.

Make no mistake, it was no off-night for Liverpool when Sheffield United knocked them out of the League Cup 1-0. Liverpool must put the result down to the building confidence of the United players who chose that night in particular to lift their game to aggressive heights sufficient to topple the European Champions.

Among the United giants that evening, Sabella distracted the Liverpool defence and writhed when dumped on the pitch to give Gary Hamson the opportunity to score the vital goal.

That night a 35,753 crowd paid a record £53,000 (the previous best was £43,000 against Arsenal) and two evenings later, 22,244 people paid about £40,000 to see the "friendly" with Sabella's former club, River Plate.

Which brings me, finally, to the matter of the importance of Sabella's appearances with the Buenos Aires club. In the match against his former team-mates they paid him the respect of singling him out for special attention to the extent of bringing him down heavily to give away a penalty.

River Plate, including World Cup stars Fillol, Passarella, Luque, Ortiz and Alonso, showed us skills we did not know existed . . . and world-travelled reporters clapped in the Press box.

For the 23-year-old Sabella to have earned a place in such a side proves his worth. It's not important how many appearances he made five years ago, for instance, when he was just 18. On the evidence of the River Plate performance . . . and in a friendly . . . few of England's First Division stars could be sure they would be selected more regularly than Sabella.

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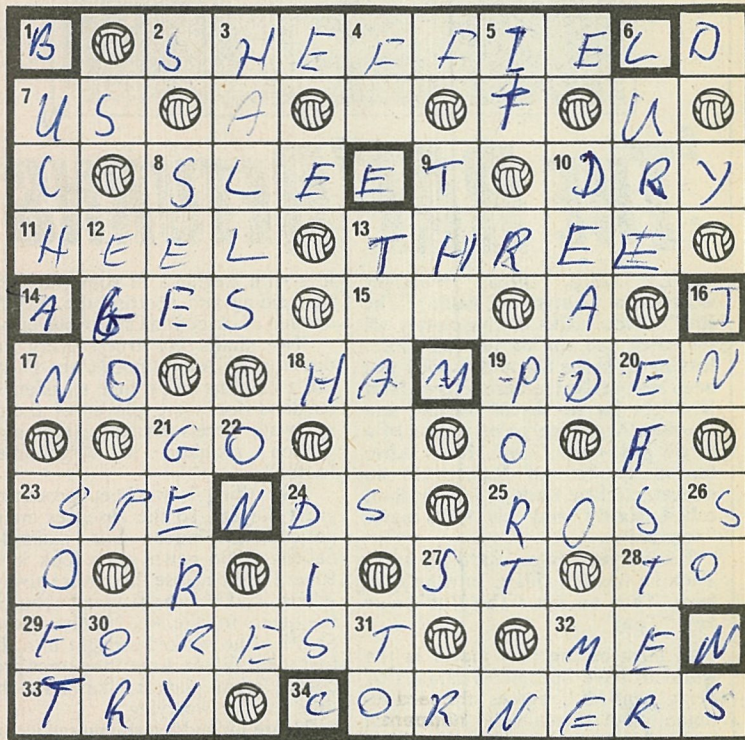
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Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Spurs midfielder. Answers on page 46.



ACROSS:—

- (2) — United, from Bramall Lane.
- (7) Cr--aders; Irish League club.
- (8) Mixture of rain and snow.
- (10) Micky --o-, Chelsea defender.
- (11) Part of the foot.
- (13) Number of goals scored in the 1976-77 F.A. Cup Final.
- (14) Glasgow R-n--r- play at Ibrox.
- (15) Trevor --bberd of Southampton.
- (17) Pre-t-n Park; Tranmere Rovers' ground.
- (18) The British record crowd of 149,547 at a soccer match was in 1937 at — Park.
- (21) --ldstone Ground; Brighton & Hove Albion's ground.
- (23) -cunthor-- U-ite- play at Old -how Ground.
- (25) Trevor —, Everton midfield player.
- (27) -- James' Park, Exeter City's ground.
- (28) Glen--ran; Irish League club.
- (29) Nottingham —, League Champions, 1977-78.
- (32) Ray Cle---ce of Liverpool.
- (33) Attempt from the omissions in Mick Doche--- of Sunderland.
- (34) Some players are very expert at taking them.

DOWN:—

- (1) Martin —, Manchester United player.
- (3) -----borough; Sheffield Wednesday's ground.
- (4) — Ground of Darlington.
- (5) Tom R--chie of Bristol City.
- (6) Entice — perhaps into an offside trap.
- (8) -om-rs-t Park; Ayr United.
- (9) John -i-c--ll (Millwall). The word from the omissions.
- (10) Word descriptive of the ball stationary or out of play.
- (12) 1FC Col--n- (West Germany). Reverse the missing letters for self.
- (16) PSV E--dhoven; Dutch League club.
- (19) ----smouth are in Division Four.
- (20) — Road Park; Hibernian's ground.
- (21) — Daly of Derby County.
- (22) Tony Br-w- of W.B.A.
- (23) 8 Across would make the pitch thus.
- (24) -he-terf-el-. "Record" from the missing letters reversed.
- (26) Take four letters from "The Ironsides" to give male offspring.
- (30) Dennis M--timer of Aston Villa.
- (31) Wm. --wnley (Blackburn Rovers) was the first player to score a hat-trick in an F.A. Cup Final (1890).
- (32) Geoff --rrick of Bristol City.

'There are no lost causes at Ibrox'

OH DEAR, it appears the prophets of doom are having a field day at Rangers' expense.

OK, let's clear the air. I'm the first to admit our League form hasn't been brilliant, but I stress there is still a long way to go until the end of the programme. You don't win a Championship after just nine or so games... it's consistency that counts and I'm certain Rangers have that valuable commodity.

Certainly our League results haven't been as good as last season at this stage, but we are hardly in a hopeless position. There are no lost causes at Ibrox. We fight to the very end — manager John Greig makes sure of that.

The Premier Division is extremely competitive although playing against a club at least four times a season maybe a bit too much. In fact, even if we do not draw St. Mirren in the Scottish Cup we will have played them on six occasions before the end of the season.

We will have four League matches against them and we have already played them twice in the League Cup.

Well, why do Rangers appear to be struggling this season? You can put it down to a variety of reasons. You can make excuses, but, of course, if you don't put the ball in the net you don't win games and some of our outfield play has been unrewarded.

All right, you have all heard that line before, but it just happens to be true. We are building well from the back and making the opportunities but the ball just hasn't been running true in front of goal.

Believe me, it's as simple as that. Once we put it all together we'll be right back in business and the critics will have to think again before writing us off.

Who is going to win the League



Derek Johnstone in action for Rangers v. Aberdeen in September. The game finished 1-1.

Tartan Talk **DEREK JOHNSTONE**

chance as anyone to win the League. I said it at the beginning of the season and despite our hardly scintillating results I will not change my mind.

Celtic have done well and so, too, have Aberdeen, Hibs and Dundee United. Motherwell apparently have been playing some good football but their results don't appear to back this up. Morton are always a difficult club to beat at Cappielow and Hearts held us to a draw although they were supposedly going through a bad patch.

And I shan't forget Partick Thistle. They have shocked a lot of clubs with their good form. I see a SHOOT reporter tipped them to be relegated... I wonder if he has changed his mind?

My old mate Alan Rough tells me there is no chance of the Firhill men going down and I'll take his word for that.

Anyway, come the end of the season, there should be one club sitting at the top of the pile. I'll give you a clue... their name starts with the letter R and ends with S. Get the picture...

this season? That's a tough question because the top ten is so tight and there isn't much separating all the clubs. Really, you can only be four or five points behind the leaders and still fighting off relegation.

It's as tough at the top as it is at

the bottom as everyone strives to get results. There is hardly any respite but that's the way we like it at Ibrox. We've worked with pressure for so long that we would definitely miss it if anything changed.

I reckon Rangers stand as good a

**TARTAN TALK FROM
CELTIC'S DANNY
McGRAIN NEXT WEEK**



Gers' Tommy McLean goes close in the opening match of this season. It was a shock result as St. Mirren won 1-0 at Ibrox.

SHOOT looks at recent transfers in Scotland and decides which were the . . .

GOOD and

SPENDING big money is always precarious business for a manager. He knows it is his decision when he meets another club's normally inflated valuation of a player.

He is taking a gamble in the most risky of soccer jobs. Some managers have had amazing success with players other clubs did not want. Other bosses, however, haven't had the same sort of luck and the axe is soon sharpened and ready to come down on the poor unfortunate's neck.

This week SHOOT takes a look at the transfer market North of the border to assess some of the recent buys.

Davie Provan cost Celtic a record £120,000 when they signed the multi-talented outside-right from Kilmarnock and there has already been positive proof in his so-far brief Parkhead career that this will be money well spent.

The youngster is unselfish, will run all day for the team and his penetrating dashes in the heart of opponents' goal-mouths make him one of the most entertaining and flamboyant wingers in Scotland.

Celtic had to move in quickly for the Under-21 raider because Aston Villa, always on the look-out for a bargain buy in the Scottish market, were ready to lead a posse of English clubs to Rugby Park.

We must rate Provan a hit and

we are confident he will prove us absolutely right in the coming years.

Motherwell have been spending money with a fair amount of abandon. Since the start of the season with the likes of Dave Latchford (Birmingham), Peter Carr (New England Tea Men), Mike Larnach (Newcastle), Jim Capaldi (Aston Villa), Jim Boyd (Clyde), and, of course, Wilson taking their talents to Fir Park.

It was probably to be expected that the team might struggle to find a settled rhythm with all these happenings and this has been reflected in the results.

Dave Latchford came North of the border amid glowing tributes from his former Birmingham City team-mate Roger Hynd, but after Motherwell had been beaten by Celtic in the League Cup the burly English goalkeeper was one of the

first to get the axe.

It's too early to say whether Dave Latchford will follow in his brother Peter's footsteps and be a huge success in Scottish soccer, but certainly his form has suffered at Fir Park and he has conceded too many goals.

On the form displayed so far we must rate him a flop.

Mike Larnach cost £60,000 from Newcastle, but he has failed to find his goal touch although a partnership of Larnach and Pettigrew is potentially one of the most dangerous in the Premier Division.

Larnach was bought to score goals but he hasn't delivered the goods. He appears to have lost confidence in his finishing ability and unless he recaptures that touch, he, too, will be rated a bad buy.

Paul Wilson is another attacker who can excite and entertain one week and baffle and bewilder the next. Roger Hynd bought him from Celtic and he declared that he had the best wingers in Scotland in Wilson and Peter Marinello.

Certainly, on form they could be



St. Mirren's Jim Bone, a bargain at £20,000 from Arbroath.

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BAD buys

course, in charge of Aberdeen. Bone "thanked" his former boss for his shrewd bit of buying power when The Dons played at Love Street recently and went down 2-1 with Bone netting the first goal and playing superbly throughout. Morton manager Benny Rooney doesn't have the luxury of throwing big money around, but he has done well in the transfer market.

He picked up Ally Scott on a free transfer from Hibs and the striker has been a success.

So, too, has Bobby Russell, another lively leader, and Bobby Thomson, who arrived from St. Johnstone, has scored many valuable goals.

Unfortunately, Jim Rooney, no relation to Benny, has failed to make an impact since his arrival from Queen's Park. His lack of speed has been exposed.

Airdrie boss Bobby Watson has

signed two of his former team-mates in Willie Henderson and John Goldthorp. Watson, of course, played alongside the former international winger at Ibrox and he was a colleague of Goldthorp's when they both played for Motherwell.

Henderson has obviously left his best days behind him, but Watson is hoping he can still show some of his old exhilarating flashes of brilliance in an Airdrie jersey. It is doubtful though, if Henderson could maintain top form again although it's a nice thought!

Goldthorp cost only £20,000 from Morton and he has taken his goalscoring flair to Broomfield. He will probably finish somewhere at the top of the First Division goalscorers chart and that's good enough for us.

Watson also paid out a modest sum for ex-international goalkeeper Ernie McGarr from Cowdenbeath and he looks like being a good buy.

Kilmarnock have a new strike force in John Bourke, from Dundee United, and Joe Cairney, from Airdrie, and given time they could blend in to a very profitable partnership.

The Rugby Park men have been ravaged by transfers in recent years with players such as Davie Provan (Celtic), Jim Stewart (Middlesbrough), Gordon Smith (Rangers), and Ian McCulloch (Notts County) leaving the club, but manager Davie Sneddon hasn't been slow to pay out cash for replacements.

Walked out

John Bourke, one of the finest headers of the ball in Scotland, walked out on Dundee United at the start of the season for "personal reasons" and eventually Tannadice boss Jim McLean sold him for a cut-price £40,000. Once Bourke gets used to Kilmarnock's style of play he will undoubtedly start scoring goals.

Joe Cairney, who cost £30,000, also knows the route to goal and possesses one of the most powerful shots in the game. By the end of the season this twosome should have proved to be a bargain for a joint £70,000.

When Bourke did his vanishing act at Tannadice, Jim McLean spent around £20,000 on Stranraer's top scorer Derek Frye, but the goal supply has not followed the player into the Premier Division.

Hearts fans haven't had much to shout about this season but former Alloa centre-half Frank Liddle has played well in defence. There are no thrills about the player, he plays it hard and he plays to win.

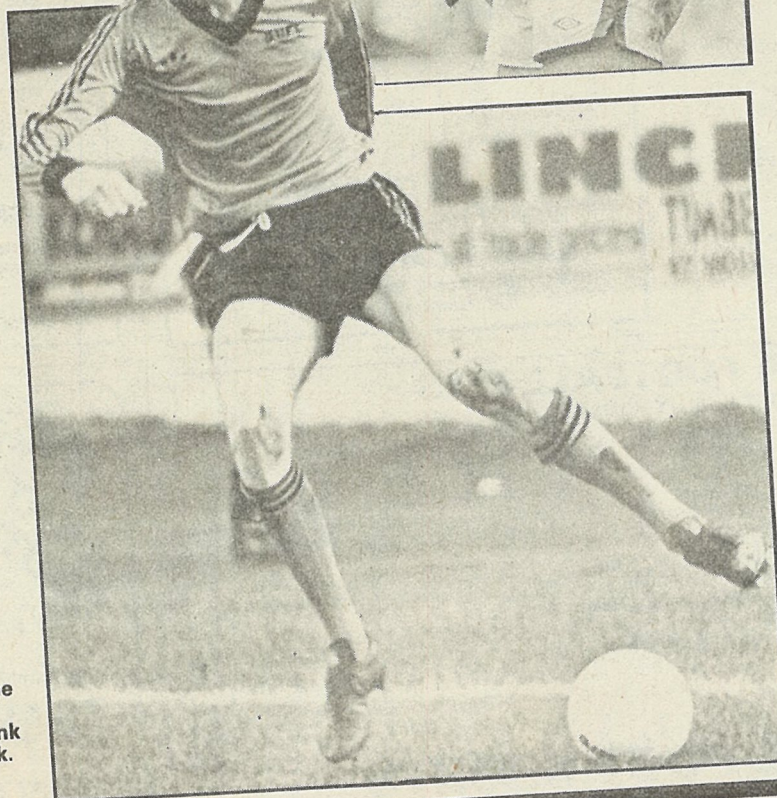
If Hearts fail to grab a Premier Division lifeline this term he will not be to blame.

Those are just some of the recent moves in Scotland. You may or may not agree with our ratings of the players, but one thing is certain... even now managers will be preparing to take the transfer plunge again and set in motion the money go-round that proves so intriguing.

Money can't guarantee success in soccer. But managers keep trying. Some succeed. Some fail.



Davie Provan (left) cost Celtic a record £120,000 when they signed him from Kilmarnock. It was money well-spent. Dave Latchford (right) was axed by Motherwell after a League Cup defeat. John Bourke (below) will prove a hit.



a handful for any team, but, again, confidence means an awful lot to these players.

Wilson should settle in soon, but consistency has never been his strong point and he will have to work at this part of his game or he, too, will be rated a bad buy before the end of the season.

It would be unfair to pass judgment on either Capaldi or Carr as they haven't had time to prove themselves but Boyd, who cost £20,000 from Clyde, hasn't settled in since the start of the term.

One of the best buys of the season must be Under-21 goalkeeper Billy Thomson who was signed by St. Mirren manager Jim Clunie from Partick Thistle. He cost £55,000 and it would appear to be money well spent.

Another good piece of transfer business concerning St. Mirren was their £20,000 buy from Arbroath, striker Jimmy Bone, whose goalscoring talents have taken him from Partick Thistle to Norwich to Sheffield United, to Celtic, and then on to Gayfield.

Now the bustling, energetic, Bone is back in the big time and he is taking a lot of weight off the shoulders of the highly-rated Frank McGarvey in the St. Mirren attack.

Bone was a bargain buy from Alex Ferguson, he is now, of

TAKE A BREAK—IT'S Quiz Time

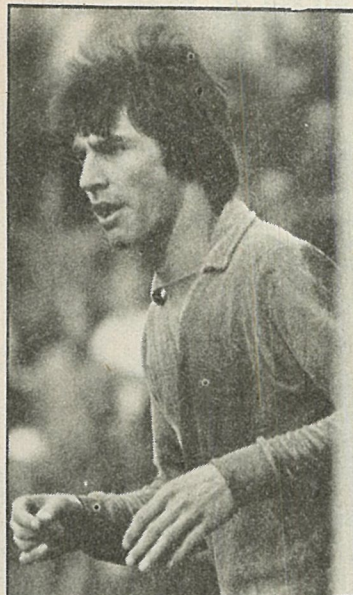
1. Jim Iley was sacked as manager of which Second Division club recently?
2. Name the two goalkeepers on duty in last season's F.A. Cup Final at Wembley.
3. On Saturday, October 7th, two players scored hat-tricks. One plays for Bristol Rovers and the other for West Ham. Can you name the strikers?
4. After the matches played that day, which clubs headed (a) First, (b) Second, (c) Third, (d) Fourth and (e) Scottish Premier?
5. Rearrange the jumbled letters to find the name of one of the Scottish Premier Division goalkeepers
VADE FTCLRDOAH (EOHWLMTRLE).
6. Was former Manchester City star Dennis Tueart, now playing in America with the Cosmos, a member of Sunderland's 1973 F.A. Cup-winning side against Leeds United?
7. Viv Anderson (right, Not-

tingham Forest), Cyrille Regis or Laurie Cunningham (both West Brom) was the first black player to



be capped for England at Under-21 level?

8. After a spell in America, former Millwall goalkeeper Nicky Johns



(left) is now League with w. in the Football
9. Alan Hansen joined the summer of 1977. Thistle, Motherwell, Liverpool in for an estimated fee of £150,000 or £200,000?
10. Tommy Docherty appointed the manager of as County in September, 1977. you remember whom he replaced in the hot-seat at the Baseball Ground?

ANSWERS:—

1. Blackburn Rovers. 2. Paul Cooper for Ipswich and Pat Jennings for Arsenal. 3. Paul Randall (Rovers) and Bryan Robson (West Ham). 4. (a) Liverpool, (b) Crystal Palace, (c) Shrewsbury, (d) Wimbledon, (e) Celtic. 5. Dave Latchford (Motherwell). 6. Yes. 7. Cunningham. 8. Sheffield United. 9. From Partick for £100,000. 10. Colin Murphy.

GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (2) Sheffield. (7) Us. (8) Sleet. (10) Dry. (11) Heal. (13) Three. (14) Ages. (15) He. (17) No. (18) Hampden. (21) Go. (23) Spends. (25) Ross. (27) St. (28) To. (29) Forest. (32) Men. (33) Try. (34) Corners.

DOWN:— (1) Buchan. (3) Hills. (4) Faethams. (5) It. (6) Lure. (8) See. (9) Them. (10) Dead. (12) Ego. (16) In. (19) Port. (20) Easter. (21) Gerry. (22) On. (23) Soft. (24) Disc. (26) Sons. (30) Or. (31) To. (32) Me.

Jumbled Name: NEIL McNAB.

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Can Ron Saunders survive the Villa pressures?

WHEN Ron Saunders took over as manager of Aston Villa in June, 1974, it was with instant success. In his first year the club won promotion to the First Division and the League Cup double.

The following season, as Villa celebrated their return to the top flight, the club finished in 16th position.

Then came Villa's best ever campaign, as far as winning the League Championship goes, since 1951-52 (when the team ended that term in sixth place) as The Villans stormed to fourth spot and again carried off the League Cup.

Last term great things were expected from Ron Saunders' men, but it was not to be as the curse of any manager struck — injuries to key players and indifferent form.

Even so, with the usual 110 per cent effort and the bleeding of new players plus some wise moves into the transfer market, the team still finished in a respectable eighth position.

At the beginning of last season a new stand costing around £1 million so far was opened at the Witton End of the ground, bringing the seating capacity to the 20,000 mark, and during the summer a new pitch was laid together with other improvements to existing terracing.

Financing the stand project took some very careful mathematics, for the club, in their determination to become big, were also determined not to run up a debt that they couldn't pay.

Saunders has spent more than £1 million on new players to achieve this most cherished ambition — the First Division Champ-

ionship. At today's prices the outlay is probably worth about £4 million.

Players have left and around £1¼ million has been recouped in transfer fees. Yet Saunders must feel the injury jinx will never leave Villa Park.

The pressure on Ron Saunders to do well this term must be enormous, but what does a manager do when the number of players on the injured list amounts to almost a full team?

After the game against Nottingham Forest, Cowans joined Gidman, Gray, Smith, Cropley, Carrodus and Gregory, who were previously all out of action, and four others were receiving treatment.

Saunders cannot go out and buy again, because the players are simply not available. He cannot field a settled team. In fact, before the League Cup-tie against Crystal Palace it was doubtful whether he could field a team at all.

So many first team players were injured he asked the League to postpone their match at Arsenal.

Villa's request was denied — and their "reserves" went on to hold Arsenal to a 1-1 draw.

More on the credit side there is the improvement in form of Little and Mortimer, the steady influence of McNaught and Rimmer with Craig beginning to look good. And there can be no doubt in anybody's mind teenager Cowans has emerged as a player of real class.

The average home gate at Villa Park so far this season is over 38,000, so the fans rated by Ron Saunders as the best in the world are keeping faith with the man they applauded to his seat after he



Boss Saunders completes the signing of Ken McNaught (below) from Everton. Two of Villa's injured stars, John Gidman (bottom of page, left) and Alex Cropley.

turned down a lucrative Saudi Arabian offer. It also means cash is flowing into the Villa Park coffers and the club can continue to grow.

But it did take a boardroom split before Saunders received a six-year contract which offered security for him and his family.

It's too early in the season to say just what Villa are capable of

achieving this term. The Championship already looks a forlorn hope, but with Saunders at the helm, nothing's impossible.

For those readers who like to keep statistics, Richard Kurr of Handsworth, Birmingham, an Aston Villa season ticket holder, has kindly supplied the following information:



New youngsters	Position
John Deehan	forward
Gordon Cowans	midfield
Ivor Linton	winger
Colin Gibson	full-back/winger
David Evans	full-back
Gary Williams	centre-back
Adrian O'Dowd	forward
Ian Hendry	midfield/forward

Players BOUGHT	Position	Previous club	Fee
John Burridge	goalkeeper	Blackpool	£100,000
Nigel Spink	goalkeeper	Chelmsford	£4,000
Allan Evans	centre-back	Dumfermline	£20,000
(plus £10,000 after ten full League apps.)			
John Gregory	utility man	Northampton	£40,000
Andy Gray	forward	Dundee Utd	£110,000
Gordon Smith	full-back	St. Johnstone	£85,000
Alex Cropley	midfield	Arsenal	£125,000
Leighton Phillips	sweeper	Cardiff	£100,000
Dennis Mortimer	midfield	Coventry	£175,000
Frank Carrodus	midfield/winger	Man City	£95,000
Ken McNaught	centre-back	Everton	£200,000
Tommy Craig	midfield	Newcastle	£250,000
Gary Shelton	midfield/winger	Walsall	£60,000
Willie Young	winger	Arthurlie	£7,000
Tommy Graham	forward	Arsenal	£70,000
Jimmy Rimmer	goalkeeper	Arsenal	£70,000
Total			£1,451,000

Players SOLD	Position	Club	Fee rec.
John Burridge	goalkeeper	Crystal Palace	£50,000
Ray Graydon	winger	Coventry	£35,000
Charlie Young	centre-back	Gillingham	£95,000
Mick Buttress	midfield		
David Hughes	midfield	Lincoln	£20,000
Chris Nicholl	centre-back	Southampton	£95,000
Steve Hunt	winger	Cosmos	£30,000
John Capaldi	forward	Motherwell	£4,000
Ian Ross	centre-back	Northampton	£20,000
Total			£349,000



The chase is on . . . West Brom's Laurie Cunningham and Phil Neal of Liverpool in action.

SHOOT!